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ABSTRACT

This KIDS COUNT Data Book provides state and county data on the well-being of Kansas' children. The statistical portrait is based on 22 indicators of well-being: (1) births to single teens; (2) children living in poverty; (3) children receiving free school meals; (4) children in families receiving economic assistance; (5) childhood deaths; (6) infant mortality; (7) births that received early prenatal care; (8) immunizations; (9) low birth weight babies; (10) Head Start participation; (11) child care availability; (12) post-secondary education; (13) high school graduates receiving post-secondary education; (14) births to mothers with less than a high school diploma; (15) students graduating high school; (16) foster care; (17) teen violent deaths; (18) reported child abuse and neglect; (19) substantiated child abuse and neglect; (20) juvenile court filings; (21) youth alcohol use; and (22) youth drug use. Following an overview, the first part of the data book discusses children at risk in Kansas and specific risk factors that measurably limit children's development and narrow their opportunity for succeed in life. The bulk of the data book presents statistics, by county, for each indicator. A state of Kansas profile and county-by-county statistics conclude the data book. Among the findings, infant mortality, Head Start participation, teen violent deaths, out-of-home placements and illicit drug use show improvement; childhood deaths, births that received early prenatal care, and measures of early childhood care and education remain relatively stable; and reports of child abuse and neglect, alcohol use and juvenile court filings, and binge drinking all show deterioration. (KB)

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2 Children living in homes where the primary wage earner is not a high school graduate: 8%

3 Children living in poverty: 16%

Children at Risk

4 Children living in homes where no parent has a full-time, year-round job: 21%

5 Children living in families receiving public assistance: 10%

6 Children without health insurance: 10%

Kansas kids count
Action For Children, Inc.

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Sources for the data used in this book are listed on page 163-164.
These sources remain the final authority regarding the quality and meaning of the data.

Our Work

Kansas Action for Children is a private, not-for-profit, citizen-based corporation founded in 1979. We work on behalf of all children to ensure that their physical and emotional needs are met and that they become healthy and contributing adults.

- We *paint the picture* of Kansas children by gathering and publicizing information on child well-being through the *Kansas Children's Report Card*, the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK*, and special reports.
- We *advance alternatives* by developing state policy that is family and child friendly. Over the years, programs related to early childhood development, teen pregnancy, preventive health care, citizens review boards, and services to children in troubled families have stemmed from our work.
- We *build the base* of citizen advocacy for children by working with citizens and organizations across the state. We believe that hundreds of citizens speaking out for children can help create communities that support families and children.

2000 KANSAS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

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KANSAS KIDS COUNT is committed to providing objective, data-driven outcome measurements for determining child well-being in our state. By highlighting state and county trends, we hope to raise public awareness about the plight of vulnerable children and encourage citizen action.

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OVERVIEW

The *2000 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* begins with a special report on children at risk in Kansas. Based on their exposure to four or more risk factors, we estimate that over 57,000 Kansas kids are at extremely high risk of "growing up in circumstances that limit the development of their potential, compromise their health, impair their sense of self, and generally restrict their chances for successful lives." The risk factors include: not having two parents in the home, living in poverty or on welfare, not having health insurance, and parents lacking education or employment.

The special report provides additional information on these at-risk children and steps that can be taken to intervene on their behalf. Available proceeds from the state's tobacco litigation settlement provide a unique opportunity for investment in children's programs that can address these needs.

Indicator Trends

The *2000 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* provides state and county data on 22 indicators of the well-being of children and families in Kansas. These indicators reflect five different areas of functioning: economic well-being, physical health and safety, childhood care and education, emotional well-being, and social behavior and control. By highlighting state and county trends, we hope to raise public awareness about the plight of vulnerable children and to encourage citizen action.

As with previous years' data books, the *2000 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* shows improvement in some indicators, while others continue to worsen.

Measures Showing Significant Improvement

- Infant mortality rates continue to decline. The percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 has shown marked improvement over the past six years but appears to be leveling off well below the Healthy People 2000 goal of 90 percent.

- Head Start participation is up slightly from last year but dramatically from the average for the previous five years.

- The rate of out-of-home placement for children and the teen violent death rate have declined.

- The percent of youth who report having ever used any illicit drug dropped dramatically.

Measures Remaining Steady

- The economic well-being of children and families in Kansas appears to be relatively stable for this reporting period. We do raise concerns about the adequacy of currently available data for monitoring economic well-being. In addition, we are concerned that children do not appear to be sharing equally in the economic good times that our state is currently enjoying.

- Childhood death rates are up from last year but comparable to the five-year average.

- The percent of births with early prenatal care appears steady at around 85 percent.

- Most measures of childhood care and education have remained relatively stable.

Measures That Are Deteriorating

- Reports of child abuse and neglect are on the rise.

- Two measures of social behavior and social control are worse this year. Alcohol use and juvenile court filings have increased.

- The percentage of youth who report binge drinking continued to increase.

What You Can Do

The measures showing significant improvement are cause for celebration, but we must not lose sight of the measures that are deteriorating. Awareness of the negative trends in those indicators provides us with the opportunity to make a difference in our own communities, as well as at the statewide level. Use the KIDS COUNT data to gain a better understanding of the specific issues affecting your county and join with others who have similar concerns. Determine your community's strengths and needs and become involved with changing public policy to respond positively to the data. Get to know your legislators and communicate your concerns to them; monitor the progress of legislation that affects children and families in Kansas.

Contact Kansas Action for Children at (785) 232-0550 to be placed on the legislative update list (sent via e-mail). For more information on children's issues, visit the Kansas Action for Children website at **www.kac.org.**

Do your part to make KIDS COUNT in Kansas!

CHILDREN AT RISK IN KANSAS

Which risk factors do children face that measurably limit their development and narrow their opportunity to succeed in life?

An answer to that question could provide state policymakers greater confidence in allocating scare resources and greater patience to pursue long-term investment strategies that may not produce short-term results.

Children exposed to social or economic hardships are not necessarily doomed to a life of failure, but many children do face seemingly insurmountable barriers to successful development and pursuit of opportunity. Risk factors place them at higher risks than their peers of "growing up in circumstances that limit the development of their potential, compromise their health, impair their sense of self, and generally restrict their chances for successful lives." Could the family in which the child exists hold the key to opportunity?[1]

The family remains our primary institution with responsibility and opportunity to raise our children. While not the only determinant, a family's basic economic and social conditions all play a major part in how well a family can secure the well-being, development and success of its children. The *1999 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, which reports data for all states, identified six indicators of family capacity that research tells us correlate strongly with child outcomes:

- child is not living with two parents
- head of household is not a high school graduate
- family income is below the poverty line
- child is living with parent(s) who do not have steady, full-time employment
- family is receiving welfare benefits
- child does not have health insurance

Table 1 shows the percent of children who were found to be at risk for each of these six risk indicators in Kansas and in the U.S. In the following sections, we will first discuss the findings for each indicator and their implications. We then turn to a discussion of the consequences of combined family risk factors. The final section provides some recommendations about steps to reduce these risks and the negative effects that they may have on families and children in Kansas.

Table 1. Percent of Children with Individual Risk Factors, 1996

	Not Living with two parents	Head of household not a high school graduate	Poverty	No secure, full-time parental employment	Families receiving welfare benefits	No health insurance
Kansas	28	8	16	21	10	10
U.S.	32	19	22	30	15	14

Child Is Not Living With Two Parents

In the United States, one out of every three children lives in a single-parent household. It is estimated that approximately 60 percent of children born now will live in a single-parent family before they are 18 years old.[2] From 1996 to 1998, approximately 24 percent of children, or 17 million, were living in families where only the mother was present. Among mother-only families, 42 percent of the mothers had never been married, and 50 percent were separated or divorced.[3]

During that same time period, the percent of children living in father-only families rose from 14 percent to 16 percent. Even so, father-only families represent 4 percent of all family types. Among fathers in father-only households, 34 percent had never been married and 57 percent were separated or divorced.

Having both parents present reduces the risk of facing poverty. While the poverty rate among children in single-family households is 46 percent, the rate among children with two parents present is approximately 10 percent.[4] In 1997, there was a significant increase in the number of extremely poor children living in mother-only families. An increase of 372,000 children represented a 26 percent rise for this family type.[5]

Girls growing up without a father are two and a half times as likely to get pregnant and 53 percent more likely to commit suicide than their peers. Boys growing up without a father are 63 percent more likely to run away and 37 percent more likely to abuse drugs than their peers. Both girls and boys, without a father in their life, are twice as likely to drop out of high school, twice as likely to have been in jail, and almost four times as likely to need assistance for emotional or behavioral problems.[6]

A recent study conducted with participants between the ages of 15 to 24 revealed that those from single-parent families scored lower than those from stable intact families and stepfamilies on different aspects of psychological well-being. In addition, these

individuals reported more conflicts with their partners, had more divorce experience of their own and were more often unemployed or incapacitated than those from other family types.[7]

The Kansas Picture: In Kansas, 28 percent of all children were not living with two parents in 1996. This figure is close to the national figure, and Kansas' ranking of 17th among all states is the state's worst ranking of the six risk factors.

Head of Household Is Not A High School Graduate

While years ago, completion of a high school education was considered an asset in the labor force, today it serves more as a minimum requirement for further academic education and training, as well as entry into the competitive job market.[8] Research has shown that persons with lower levels of educational attainment are more likely to be unemployed than persons with higher levels of educational attainment.[9] Of most concern are households headed by single females with less than a high school education. These families have a greater likelihood of facing economic hardships.

On an inflation-adjusted basis, the median weekly earnings for women age 25 and older with less than a high school education has fallen since 1979, yet the earnings for female college graduates has risen.[10] In 1997, the median annual earnings for women with less than a high school education, ages 25-34, was significantly less (37 percent) than for women who earned a high school diploma or GED. Likewise, there tends to be an obvious gap between the average annual earnings of women and those of men with less than a high school education, with women earning less.[11] According to the National Center of Education Statistics, between 1992 and 1996 high school students whose parents did not graduate from high school were twice as likely to drop out of school as their peers whose parents had at least some college education.[12]

The Kansas Picture: In Kansas, only 8 percent of the children reside in a family where the head of the household is not a high school graduate, compared to 19 percent for the nation as a whole. Only four states have lower rates on this indicator. Nevertheless, the 8 percent figure in Kansas represents more than 57,000 children.

Family Income Is Below Poverty

More than one of every five children in the United States lives below the poverty line. Over 5 million of these children are under age 6.[13] Almost half of these children live in families with one or both parents working year-round.[14] When the family's income is below the poverty line, the hardships and risks faced by the family are many.

The family's inability to afford adequate housing, nutritious food, or adequate child-care place poor children at higher risks than other children.[15] According to a survey conducted by the National Center for Health Statistics, as the family's income decreases, the percentage of children in very good or excellent health also lowers. Sadly enough, the survey revealed that approximately 65 percent of children whose family income was below the poverty line were in very good or excellent health, compared with 84 percent of children whose family income was at or above the poverty line.[16]

Among children and youth between ages 5 and 17, 12 percent of those living below the poverty line are limited in their activity level due to chronic health conditions, compared to 6 to 7 percent of children and youth in families living at or above the poverty line. Such chronic health conditions as asthma, hearing impairments and diabetes usually have a duration of at least three months and interfere with activities such as going to school, playing and other activities typical for children and youth.[17] Poor children are at greater risk of stunted growth, anemia, repeated years of schooling, lower test scores and less education. These children are also more likely to experience lower wages and earnings in their adult years.[18]

The Kansas Picture: Childhood poverty figures for Kansas are well below the national level, however, more than 114,000 children in Kansas live in families whose income is below the poverty line. This is one of the key indicators included in the annual *Kansas KIDS COUNT Data Book*. A more detailed discussion of this measure and county level data analyses can be found in the indicator and county sections of this book.

Parent(s) Do Not Have Steady, Full-Time Employment

Nearly 20 million American children, or 30 percent, are growing up in households where no parent had a full-time, year-round job.[19] Research reveals that the experience of unemployment, which often leads to financial hardship, is associated with family problems.[20] While some unemployed or underemployed parents may utilize their time off work to build a closer relationship with their children, some parents who respond to their financial loss with increased irritability and pessimistic outlook are usually less nurturing and more punitive and arbitrary when interacting with their children. These behaviors place the child at higher risk of socio-emotional problems,

deviant behavior and reduced aspirations and expectations.[21] Youth, especially males, who live in an unemployed family environment, tend to have lower self-concepts.[22]

The Kansas Picture: More than one in five children in Kansas live in homes where no parent had a full-time, year-round job. While Kansas compares favorably on this factor with other states, this figure remains shockingly high in a period of unprecedented economic growth and employment.

Family Is Receiving Welfare Benefits

For many, reliance on public assistance affects their level of self-esteem. Feelings of pessimism, emotional depression and decreased opportunities are also evident.[23] Research indicates that parents facing financial hardship feel more depressed about their child's future, feel less competent to help their child choose future career paths, tend to lower their expectations for their child's education, and are less likely to encourage their child to finish college.[24] Often, this has an adverse effect on the parent-adolescent relationship, which, in turn, negatively affects the youth's self-esteem.[25]

The Kansas Picture: In 1996, 10 percent of children living in Kansas were receiving AFDC/TANF and or SSI benefits. One obvious question that arises when viewing these numbers is, if 16 percent of our children are living in poverty, why do only 10 percent receive these forms of economic assistance? In general, this discrepancy is not as great for other states.

Child Does Not Have Health Insurance

Approximately 11 million children in the United States are uninsured. More than nine out of 10 of these children have parents who are employed. Three in five children live in two-parent families. The majority of uninsured children who suffer with asthma never see a doctor as an outpatient during the year, yet many are hospitalized for preventable acute asthma attacks. One in three uninsured children with recurring ear infections also do not see a doctor during the year, and as a result, many suffer permanent hearing loss from untreated ear infections.[26] Among all poor children 5 years of age or younger, 21 percent of those without health insurance have no usual source of care compared with 4 percent of those covered by insurance.[27] Many uninsured children use the hospital emergency room as a regular source of health care.

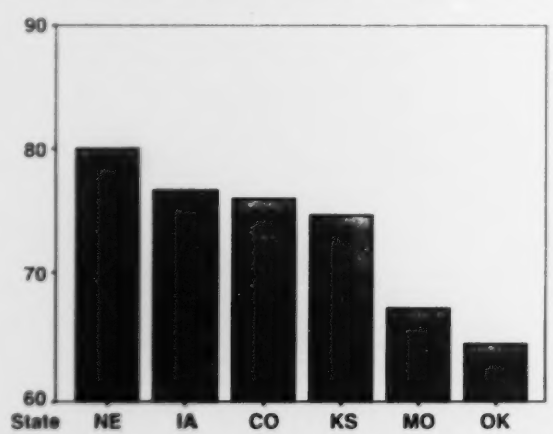
The Kansas Picture: Ten percent of Kansas children lacked health insurance in 1996 compared to 14 percent for the U.S. as a whole. Ten states, including Nebraska, South Dakota and Vermont, had lower rates than Kansas.

Consequences of Combined Family Risk Factors

The risk factors discussed are not mutually exclusive nor are their effects simply additive. Research suggests that when only a single risk factor is present the child may be at no greater risk than when no risk factors are present.[28] Figure 1 provides a graphic comparison of the percent of children in Kansas and neighboring states who are growing up relatively risk free (0-1 risks).

Kansas ranked 10th best nationally for its percent of children exposed to 0 or 1 risk factor. Among our neighboring states, for percent of children with 0 or 1 risk factor, Kansas ranked better than Missouri and Oklahoma, but worse than Nebraska, Iowa and Colorado. At 75 percent, we can say that the majority of children in Kansas are relatively risk-free. While a "passing grade," we would hardly view 75 percent as exceptional, especially when our neighbor to the north (Nebraska) is scoring 80 percent.

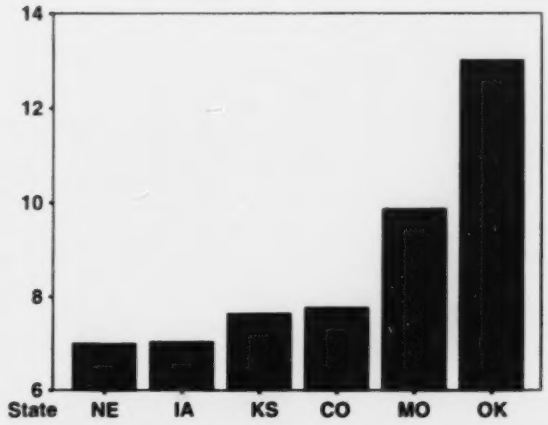
Figure 1. Children with Relatively No Risks – Kansas and Neighboring States



When two or more factors are present at the same time, the chance of a damaging outcome may increase fourfold, and when four risks are present the chances of later damage may increase by a factor of 10. The Annie E. Casey foundation, in their *1999 KIDS COUNT Data Book*, concluded that growing up with four or more of the family risk factors "is cause for exceptional alarm and merits special attention and intervention."[29]

The Kansas Picture: In 1996, 8 percent of Kansas children were exposed to four or more risk factors. Nationally, only eight states had better (lower) rates than Kansas. Within our region, Kansas ranked slightly better than Colorado and noticeably better than Missouri and Oklahoma; however, Iowa and Nebraska had lower percentages of children considered high risk than Kansas (See Figure 2).

Figure 2. Children with High Risk – Kansas and Neighboring States



Conclusions and Recommendations

More than 57,000 children in Kansas are exposed to four or more risk factors. As we have seen, these risk factors can have life-long negative consequences, including higher rates of teen pregnancy, drug use, incarceration, school drop-out, suicide, chronic health problems, and lower annual earnings and emotional health. While Kansas' eight percent compares favorably to the national rate of 13 percent of children exposed to four or more risk factors, for moral as well as very practical reasons we cannot ignore these 57,000 children.

As a first step, we must identify these seriously at-risk children and families. The analysis of the "demographics of disadvantage" provided in the 1999 national *KIDS COUNT Data Book* shows the influence of race and ethnicity on these risk factors. Nearly 30 percent of all black children and nearly 25 percent of all Hispanic children are in the high-risk category, compared to only 6 percent of all white children. High-risk children were also found to be more concentrated in urban areas and in socially isolated communities that are "characterized by limited job opportunities, poor schools, low-quality public services and higher levels of crime and drug involvement."[30]

A closer examination of the individual risk factors can also provide insights into who these children are and how they can be helped. In Kansas, as well as in the nation as a whole, the two risk factors that contribute the most to our count of high-risk children are absence of a parent in the home and parent employment status. These two risk factors interact with each other and with other risk factors to create high-risk situations for these families and their children. Single-parent families are immediately exposed to a higher risk of losing secure parental employment because they must rely totally on the employment of one parent rather than two.

Single-parent families are predominantly female-headed. Gender bias in our country reduces the earning power and opportunities for career enhancement for women, thus exposing their families to greater risk of low-paying, part-time jobs that lack benefits such as health insurance. In this vulnerable state, these families are more likely to require public assistance to meet their basic needs.

We must take steps to help strengthen these families and reduce the risk that they and their children will fail.

The Casey Foundation highlighted four core principles to guide the design and implementation of strategies to address the circumstances of families and children at risk. According to the Foundation, to be effective, services should be family-focused, comprehensive, long-term and engage the entire community.

The reality is that in Kansas we have a variety of programs, supported by different funding streams and located in different agencies, that try to deal with specific family problems. Those programs are often crisis-oriented and have few linkages between

them to address the entire range of family needs. Many existing programs focus on the child or the adult only and ignore the family and community context in which children live and grow.

Yet most families experience multiple problems and require multi-pronged and coordinated strategies. Many of the problems facing families have been built up over years and perhaps even generations, making short-term, crisis-oriented interventions ineffective over the long haul.

To help strengthen families we must find ways of ensuring coordination among different agencies and programs and of shifting the focus from crisis intervention to problem prevention.

In the past few years, Kansas has missed several opportunities to support more prevention-oriented strategies. Those opportunities included moving to a managed care child welfare system, the creation of the Juvenile Justice Authority, and welfare reform. In 1999, the Kansas Legislature created a new opportunity when it dedicated the funds from the national settlement with tobacco companies to improving child well-being. By using these funds to support prevention efforts, Kansas can benefit all children and at the same time dramatically reduce the number of children at risk.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Purpose of Kids Count. The *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* is intended to draw attention to the status of children in Kansas. The goal of *KANSAS KIDS COUNT* is to compile data on indicators of the well-being of the state's children and to use these data to strengthen strategic action on behalf of children. The book provides descriptive information with regard to five areas of child and family functioning: (1) economic conditions, (2) physical health and safety, (3) child care and education, (4) emotional functioning, and (5) social behavior and social control. Statewide and county data are provided on 22 different indicators of child well-being. The book is produced annually with current and retrospective data. By providing these data, the book is expected to motivate and encourage advocacy for children, to inform and therefore to enhance planning, and to assist in evaluating progress toward improving the lives of our children.

Structure of the Book. Around each book we have developed a theme to draw the readers' attention to current issues, research, and policy that impact children in Kansas (see pp. 4-6). A summary of the findings of the book is provided in the Overview (p.7). The reader who is interested in a particular area of child well-being (e.g., physical health and safety or child abuse and neglect) will find data organized by indicators in the first part of the book (pp. 10-53). If you are interested in a specific geographic area, you will find the data and graphic displays for each county in alphabetical order on pages 56-160. A profile for the entire state on all indicators can be found on page 55.

Selection of Indicators. The selection of data for the annual Data Book is an ongoing process. Prior to production of the first book in 1993, the project engaged in an extensive process for selecting indicators, which included reviewing *KIDS COUNT* books and related publications from other states, consultation with national KIDS COUNT staff and consultants, and guidance from two committees of Kansas advisors composed of academics, agency administrators, advocates, funders, judges and members of the state legislature.

It is important to the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT* project that as many indicators as possible reflect "outcomes" for children. We prefer to measure what end result has been achieved for children rather than what activity has occurred or what services children have received. For example, the percent of children in poverty is a preferred measure as an "outcome" for children rather than the percent who receive economic assistance from state agencies, which at times may not reflect the actual need for assistance resulting from living in poverty conditions.

Many times preferred indicators cannot be constructed because data are unavailable or of poor quality. Outcome information is more difficult for agencies to collect, so we are sometimes forced to use the more readily available service provision information. Some data may not be collected annually or may only be available as a statewide measure and not available for individual counties. In all cases we have attempted to obtain the best and most complete data available. When using service data we have attempted to limit our selection of indicators to service programs for which there is some evidence of the effectiveness of the intervention. We have, on several occasions, decided not to use data because of questions regarding the quality of the data. We see as part of the mission of KIDS COUNT the need to draw attention to unavailable and poor-quality data in order to motivate and assist in the improvement of data collection for monitoring the well-being of children in Kansas.

Data Sources. The KIDS COUNT project does not have sufficient resources to engage in primary data collection. Data for the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* are compiled by researchers at the University of Kansas, who obtain the data from other agencies and data archives. A full description of these sources is provided on pages 163 and 164. The individuals working in collaborating agencies that have helped to make this effort possible are acknowledged on page two of the *Data Book*.

Calculating Indicator Rates. All indicators are expressed as rates. A rate is the number of times some event occurs divided by the number of possible times it could have occurred. This ratio is typically multiplied by some factor of 10 to produce whole numbers rather than a decimal figure. The most common form of a rate is a percentage. For example, the childhood poverty rate is the number of children whose families' income falls below the poverty level, divided by the total number of children in the population, times 100. More simply stated, it is the percent of children in poverty or the number of children in poverty per 100 children in the population.

For many indicators, the incidence of the event of interest occurs much less frequently and a typical rate might be some fraction of a percent. Typically in these cases the rate may be expressed as the number per 1,000 (e.g. infant mortality rate) or even per 100,000 (e.g., childhood death rate). A detailed description of the calculation of each indicator is provided in the Data Notes and Sources section of this book on pages 162 and 163.

Rates are not reported for each indicator in each year for some counties. These missing data result from several sources. Sometimes data were simply not available for certain counties. On several occasions, available data were judged to be of poor quality and were not reported.

For some indicators a county rate might not be calculated because it was judged to not be "meaningful". The last situation arises primarily in counties with small populations and with indicators that have low incidence rates in the general population.

Any county that experiences at least one occurrence of an indicator event (e.g., an infant death) has a rate calculated. To judge whether a zero occurrence was meaningful, we first calculated the expected frequency of the event in a given county based on the rate for the state as a whole. If the expected frequency is less than one, we do not report the rate and thus list only a "•". In this case, we are saying that there are simply too few occurrences of the event (e.g., births) due to small population numbers to have any expectation of the event in a single year.

If the expected frequency is less than one and the county experiences one or more occurrences of the event, we calculate and report a rate. In this case, we are saying that the event would be unlikely to occur in this county due to the small numbers of people and the fact that it did occur is noteworthy. Nevertheless, many of these rates are based on very low occurrences of the underlying event and, as a result, may experience dramatic swings from year to year.

Interpreting the Data. This report provides several ways to judge the indicator score for a particular county. Decile scores rank the counties into 10 equal groups thereby providing a comparison of a county relative to all other counties in the state. For all indicators, low decile scores indicate that the county does well compared to others while high decile scores indicate that the county does relatively poorly. A decile score of "1" indicates that the county is in the top 10 percent while a decile score of "10" indicates that the county is in the bottom 10 percent.

A county's indicator score can also be compared with the state average or mean score. In this way, one can see if the county score is better or worse than the average for the state as a whole.

Given the wide diversity in demographics across the 105 Kansas counties, it may also be helpful to compare your county with other specific counties that you judge to be similar with respect to important variables such as total population, income or geographic area.

In addition, it is important to compare current county indicator scores with past performance to determine whether the situation is improving or getting worse for a specific indicator. *The Data Book* provides a way to judge changes over time by producing "current" and "base" rates on each indicator where sufficient data are available. Current-year data are provided for the most recent available year. When available data permit, the base-year rate will be the average rate for the five years preceding the current year. Percent change over time is presented for all indicators with base-year and current-year data. On the county pages a bar graph is presented where these percent change scores have been converted to indicate "better" or "worse" trends over time.

Cautions. In producing the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* we are continuously faced with decisions about the quality of the data we are able to obtain and how best to present the data to provide an accurate and useful picture of the status of children in our communities. Our experience has convinced us that annual county-level data are the most relevant to community interests and decision-making processes in Kansas. However, Kansas has a relatively small population and many more counties than most states. This makes it difficult to construct reliable rates at the county level for many of our indicators and may make it impossible to accurately discern trends in the annual data. To address these issues it is always important to recognize when a rate is based on very few incidents. For example, a childhood death rate may be calculated based on only two deaths in a year. If in the baseline period the county experienced on average only one death every two years, this will show up as a 400-percent increase. While the math behind this calculation is accurate, this increase is not reliable and should not be the focus and would be judged to be "statistically insignificant." However, a child's death is not an "insignificant" number. We still feel that it is important to draw attention to that death to stimulate local interest and discussion. What was the cause of these two deaths and could they have been avoided? In cases like this, our recommendation is to focus on the number of incidents involved rather than the rates.

Because of the time required for our data sources to collect the indicator data and the time required to produce the book, the 2000 book contains data dating back to 1999 or even 1998. The reader is cautioned to check each indicator to determine the exact time period being reported. This information can be found in the tables and in the Data Notes and Sources section of this book. It is possible that more recent data on a particular indicator are now available and can be obtained from the sources listed in the book.

As always, we invite your feedback about the *2000 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* and input regarding future productions of the book.

BIRTHS TO SINGLE TEENS

Births to single teens refer to live births to unmarried women under the age of 20. The concerns of single teens having babies are many. As they strive to care for their children, many single teen mothers have little time during their own adolescent years for developing peer relationships and their own sense of self-identity, or furthering their academic education. Approximately two-thirds of all teenage mothers have less than a high school education.[1] Facing economic hardships, nearly 80 percent of unwed teenage mothers seek welfare support.[2] A report prepared by the National Center for Health Statistics revealed that socioeconomic status has a direct relationship with health insurance coverage and access to care for preventive services and routine medical visits. Low-income women are eight times as likely as women of higher-income to be uninsured.[3] Adolescent females are twice as likely to deliver a low-birth-weight infant than are adult females.[4] Children born to teenage mothers are more likely than children born to older mothers to grow up in homes that offer lower levels of emotional support and cognitive stimulation. In addition, these children are less likely to receive a high school diploma.[5]

It should be noted that according to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, among the births to mothers, ages 10-19, where the father is known, approximately 63.7 percent had fathers who were 20 years of age or older.[6]

In 1998, 9.6 percent of all Kansas live births were to unwed mothers younger than 20 years of age. A broad range in the percent of all live births to teens can be seen among Kansas counties. There were no births to unwed teens in Comanche and Rush counties, yet slightly more than 18 percent of all live births in Hamilton, Smith, and Stafford counties were to unmarried teens. When compared to the base years period, in 1998 there was a slight increase in the percent of all live births to teens. While the most populous counties celebrated a decline in their percent of births to single teens (Douglas, Johnson, Sedgwick, Shawnee, and Wyandotte), over 40 percent of Kansas counties showed an increase of 20 percent, or greater. Teen birth rates presented in the national KIDS COUNT Data Book represent the number of births per 1000 females, ages 15 to 17, regardless of their marital status. By this definition, Kansas had a teen birth rate of 28 per 1000 teens in 1996. Compared to other states Kansas ranked 22nd (highest/best rank = 1, lowest/worst rank = 51).[7]

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	23	13.1	10	18	11.8	8	-10
ANDERSON	6	7.3	5	11	9.6	5	30
ATCHISON	25	11.7	9	25	11.0	7	-6
BARBER	4	7.9	5	6	11.8	8	48
BARTON	36	9.7	7	41	10.7	6	11
BOURBON	21	11.2	9	24	12.8	9	14
BROWN	16	12.2	9	13	9.5	5	-22
BUTLER	62	8.6	6	82	10.4	6	21
CHASE	4	8.1	6	7	13.0	9	59
CHAUTAUQUA	4	12.7	10	6	14.6	9	15
CHEROKEE	32	10.9	8	31	11.2	7	3
CHEYENNE	2	6.6	3	1	3.1	1	-52
CLARK	1	2.5	1	4	18.2	10	633
CLAY	10	10.7	8	4	3.8	2	-64
CLOUD	8	7.9	5	15	13.9	9	75
COFFEY	9	8.4	6	4	4.5	2	-46
COMANCHE	1	5.1	2	0	.0	1	-100
COWLEY	52	11.1	8	52	12.4	8	12
CRAWFORD	44	9.1	7	74	13.4	9	46
DECATUR	2	4.9	2	2	6.5	3	31
DICKINSON	24	10.9	8	22	10.5	6	-3
DONIPHAN	9	9.2	7	13	11.2	7	22
DOUGLAS	76	7.1	4	71	6.1	2	-15
EDWARDS	2	6.5	3	5	10.0	6	55
ELK	3	10.3	8	2	6.9	3	-33
ELLIS	22	6.8	4	34	10.9	7	62
ELLSWORTH	4	7.9	5	2	3.3	1	-58
FINNEY	111	13.2	10	134	14.7	10	11
FORD	63	10.7	8	66	10.1	6	-6
FRANKLIN	32	10.3	7	40	11.2	7	10
GEARY	64	7.8	5	56	8.8	4	13
GOVE	1	2.7	1	1	2.7	1	-2
GRAHAM	2	7.2	4	3	11.5	8	60

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	21	14.8	10	22	13.3	9	-10
GRAY	4	5.1	2	7	6.4	3	25
GREELEY	1	6.7	3	2	8.7	4	29
GREENWOOD	9	10.9	8	12	14.5	9	32
HAMILTON	2	7.2	4	7	18.4	10	154
HARPER	5	8.2	6	10	14.5	9	77
HARVEY	31	8.1	6	42	10.3	6	28
HASKELL	5	6.8	4	4	5.3	2	-22
HODGEMAN	1	7.8	5	1	6.3	3	-20
JACKSON	13	8.2	6	18	11.5	7	41
JEFFERSON	14	7.2	4	23	10.6	6	47
JEWELL	1	4.0	1	3	9.7	5	145
JOHNSON	203	3.4	1	199	3.1	1	-8
KEARNY	5	7.9	5	5	7.9	3	0
KINGMAN	9	9.1	7	8	9.0	4	-1
KIOWA	2	5.2	2	5	12.5	8	139
LABETTE	34	12.1	9	43	15.6	10	29
LANE	1	4.2	1	1	3.6	2	-15
LEAVENWORTH	71	8.3	6	84	10.0	6	20
LINCOLN	1	3.4	1	3	12.0	8	253
LINN	11	12.0	9	11	11.0	7	-8
LOGAN	3	8.0	6	5	16.1	10	102
LYON	51	11.3	9	48	10.4	6	-9
MARION	8	5.8	2	13	8.6	4	48
MARSHALL	8	8.1	6	6	5.0	2	-38
MCPHERSON	22	6.6	3	36	9.7	5	47
MEADE	5	7.0	4	6	9.4	5	34
MIAMI	24	7.5	5	30	8.2	4	10
MITCHELL	4	6.3	3	7	10.9	7	73
MONTGOMERY	61	13.7	10	74	16.1	10	18
MORRIS	5	6.1	3	4	5.8	2	-4
MORTON	4	6.5	3	4	8.9	4	36
NEMAHA	5	3.9	1	10	5.9	2	53
NEOSHO	22	10.8	8	13	6.6	3	-39
NESS	3	6.9	4	1	2.6	1	-63
NORTON	6	9.9	7	1	2.0	1	-80
OSAGE	18	9.1	7	16	8.3	4	-8
OSBORNE	3	7.3	5	4	11.1	7	52
OTTAWA	4	5.9	3	5	8.2	4	40
PAWNEE	10	13.8	10	10	13.3	9	-3
PHILLIPS	4	5.8	2	2	3.6	2	-39
POTTAWATOMIE	13	5.0	2	8	3.0	1	-40
PRATT	8	7.2	4	10	9.2	5	27
RAWLINS	2	7.3	5	1	3.4	2	-53
RENO	91	11.4	9	90	10.7	6	-6
REPUBLIC	4	7.2	4	6	8.8	4	22
RICE	11	9.4	7	11	8.5	4	-9
RILEY	39	4.1	1	36	4.0	2	-2
ROOKS	4	6.6	3	8	13.3	9	103
RUSH	2	5.5	2	0	.0	1	-100
RUSSELL	5	6.9	4	6	6.7	3	-2
SALINE	78	10.6	8	90	11.1	7	4
SCOTT	6	8.7	6	5	9.1	5	5
SEDGWICK	782	10.9	8	779	10.4	6	-4
SEWARD	55	12.5	9	61	12.6	8	0
SHAWNEE	301	12.9	10	303	12.7	8	-2
SHERIDAN	1	4.8	1	2	9.5	5	100
SHERMAN	12	15.0	10	12	12.0	8	-20
SMITH	1	1.9	1	7	18.4	10	872
STAFFORD	6	11.2	9	13	18.3	10	63
STANTON	4	9.2	7	1	2.6	1	-71
STEVENS	10	12.1	9	9	11.3	7	-7
SUMNER	37	11.2	9	33	9.7	5	-14
THOMAS	11	9.3	7	8	7.6	3	-18
TREGO	3	8.6	6	4	13.8	9	60
WABAUNSEE	5	6.2	3	6	8.8	4	42
WALLACE	1	5.2	2	3	12.5	8	140
WASHINGTON	4	5.6	2	5	7.4	3	31
WICHITA	2	5.9	2	3	7.7	3	31
WILSON	14	12.6	10	21	15.9	10	27
WOODSON	3	9.0	7	4	9.5	5	5
WYANDOTTE	510	18.8	10	471	17.3	10	-8
KANSAS	**3,517**	**9.5**		**3,690**	**9.6**		**1**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

While arguably the single most important indicator of children's well-being, county-level poverty data remain impossible to obtain on an annual basis. The data that are reported in this year's book are the same 1993 estimates provided in the 1999 Data Book. We have republished the data here because of the importance of this indicator.

Poverty data at the national and state levels are available for more recent years. In a recent press release, the U.S. Census Bureau reported that "A fourth straight year of growth in real median household income made 1998 the year with the highest income levels ever recorded, as poverty dropped significantly and the children's poverty rate was lower than 20 percent for the first time since 1980."[1] While most demographic groups shared in these positive trends, wide disparities in risk of living in poverty continue to exist for people of color and families with children. While the national poverty rate hovers around 13 percent, the rate for families with children under 18 years of age is 18 percent and more than one in five families with children under age 6 years were living in poverty in 1998.

The childhood poverty rate for the state of Kansas appears to have declined to 13 percent in 1998; however, this number is an estimate based on a rather small sample and could vary by as much as plus or minus 6 percent. The overall poverty rate for Kansas was around 10 percent in 1998.

The average poverty threshold for a family of four in 1998 was $16,660 in annual income; it was $13,003 for a family of three. A 1995 report from the National Academy of Sciences recommended sweeping changes to the way poverty is measured, such as counting non-cash benefits and subtracting taxes from income. These proposals are currently under review by the Office of Management and Budget and the U.S. Census Bureau.[2]

[1] U.S. Department of Commerce News, Economic and Statistics Administration, Bureau of the Census, September 30, 1999.
[2] U.S. Census Bureau, Experimental Poverty Measures: 1990-1997.

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	MEDIAN INCOME	DECILE RANK
ALLEN	918	22	25,210	9
ANDERSON	370	17	24,430	7
ATCHISON	969	21	27,704	9
BARBER	162	10	26,921	1
BARTON	1,558	19	28,176	8
BOURBON	995	25	23,925	10
BROWN	779	25	24,267	10
BUTLER	1,886	11	37,127	2
CHASE	147	19	24,486	8
CHAUTAUQUA	280	27	19,715	10
CHEROKEE	1,768	30	23,044	10
CHEYENNE	112	14	26,059	5
CLARK	52	8	30,044	1
CLAY	425	18	26,607	8
CLOUD	397	16	24,981	7
COFFEY	281	12	29,164	2
COMANCHE	73	14	25,739	5
COWLEY	1,876	19	29,277	8
CRAWFORD	2,250	26	23,213	10
DECATUR	149	16	24,683	7
DICKINSON	852	16	27,278	7
DONIPHAN	428	21	26,092	9
DOUGLAS	2,814	15	31,240	6
EDWARDS	146	16	27,489	7
ELK	172	24	19,997	10
ELLIS	927	13	28,247	4
ELLSWORTH	186	12	25,476	2
FINNEY	2,104	17	31,781	7
FORD	1,771	21	29,029	9
FRANKLIN	1,142	17	29,026	7
GEARY	2,173	23	24,264	10
GOVE	80	9	29,853	1
GRAHAM	163	18	25,969	8

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	MEDIAN INCOME	DECILE RANK
GRANT	423	16	37,586	7
GRAY	188	11	33,769	2
GREELEY	62	11	33,616	2
GREENWOOD	391	20	23,201	9
HAMILTON	91	15	29,444	6
HARPER	307	18	25,444	8
HARVEY	1,122	13	33,132	4
HASKELL	145	11	35,513	2
HODGEMAN	76	12	29,686	2
JACKSON	548	16	28,799	7
JEFFERSON	619	13	33,743	4
JEWELL	146	15	23,368	6
JOHNSON	6,723	6	50,174	1
KEARNY	202	14	35,133	5
KINGMAN	365	15	28,502	6
KIOWA	137	14	29,194	5
LABETTE	1,423	23	25,557	10
LANE	71	11	30,687	2
LEAVENWORTH	2,418	13	37,639	4
LINCOLN	125	15	22,629	6
LINN	453	20	24,324	9
LOGAN	115	13	27,139	4
LYON	1,692	18	28,886	8
MARION	396	13	26,497	4
MARSHALL	473	16	25,845	7
MCPHERSON	825	11	32,518	2
MEADE	143	12	30,141	2
MIAMI	907	13	33,397	4
MITCHELL	229	12	26,601	2
MONTGOMERY	2,413	24	24,982	10
MORRIS	310	19	26,360	8
MORTON	182	17	33,140	7
NEMAHA	413	13	27,426	4
NEOSHO	964	21	25,818	9
NESS	108	10	28,236	1
NORTON	201	15	27,415	6
OSAGE	657	14	29,553	5
OSBORNE	184	16	22,945	7
OTTAWA	199	14	26,740	5
PAWNEE	246	13	30,050	4
PHILLIPS	193	12	26,498	2
POTTAWATOMIE	679	13	31,216	4
PRATT	351	14	29,729	5
RAWLINS	118	13	25,033	4
RENO	3,134	19	29,377	8
REPUBLIC	232	16	24,721	7
RICE	560	20	26,988	9
RILEY	2,418	16	29,962	7
ROOKS	252	15	24,325	6
RUSH	126	15	23,051	6
RUSSELL	293	16	24,658	7
SALINE	2,304	17	31,250	7
SCOTT	145	9	32,954	1
SEDGWICK	22,936	19	34,921	8
SEWARD	1,549	24	29,038	10
SHAWNEE	8,081	19	33,893	8
SHERIDAN	114	14	27,921	5
SHERMAN	378	20	26,856	9
SMITH	172	16	23,890	7
STAFFORD	241	17	24,832	7
STANTON	113	15	33,414	6
STEVENS	224	13	35,263	4
SUMNER	1,046	13	31,574	4
THOMAS	362	15	28,958	6
TREGO	105	11	25,462	2
WABAUNSEE	218	12	31,408	2
WALLACE	69	13	27,989	4
WASHINGTON	252	15	23,582	6
WICHITA	122	14	33,197	5
WILSON	572	21	23,249	9
WOODSON	187	19	22,733	8
WYANDOTTE	14,491	32	26,381	10
KANSAS	**117,134**	**17**	**29,544**	

Data are from U.S. Census Bureau 1993 poverty estimates. Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive result and "10" indicates the most negative result.

CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Eligibility for the School Meals program is determined by one's family income, with 185 percent of the poverty line as the upper limit for reduced-price meals and 130 percent of the poverty line for free meals. For a family of four, this translates to a maximum annual income of $30,895 for reduced-price meals and $21,710 for free meals.[1] Understanding that some parents may not, otherwise, be able to financially afford school breakfast or lunch, subsidized school meals are critical. For some financially poor students, a free or reduced-price lunch may be their main meal for the day. A report by the Children's Defense Fund revealed that more than one-third of former welfare recipients sometimes run out of food at home.[2] Utilization of the School Meals program benefits not only a child's nutritional needs but may also affect their behavior and learning ability. Research has been found that, at school, hungry children have more problems with irritability, anxiety and aggression, as well as more tardiness and absences.[3]

This year, there is a 2 percent decline in the percent of students approved for free school meals, when compared to the previous five-year period. Counties with the most significant percentage decrease are Dickinson, Greeley, Chase and Marshall, respectively. Haskell and Gove counties showed the largest percentage increase. In Wyandotte County, 48 percent of the students are approved for free meals, which is the highest rate among Kansas counties. Seward County has the second highest rate, with 43 percent of its students approved for free meals.

Free and reduced-price lunch is the proxy variable for socioeconomic status in Kansas. Test scores reveal that students receiving free and reduced-priced lunches, as a whole, score lower than students who are not eligible for these programs. There are significant differences in scores between students receiving free lunches and students who pay full price.[4] A decline in the state's percent of students approved for free meals may seem like good news - that the family's income level is improving. However, it may be a mistake to assume the economic situation, or the overall living environment, has improved for all families no longer eligible for free school meals.

[1] U.S. Department of Agriculture. (1999, November 15). School programs: income eligibility guidelines. Online: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Lunch/IEGchart.htm

[2] Children's Defense Fund. (1999, August 22). Extreme child poverty rises sharply in 1997. Online: http://www.childrensdefense.org/publications/extremepoverty.pdf

[3] U.S. Department of Agriculture. (1999, November 15). Healthy eating helps you make the grade!. Online: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Breakfast/SchoolBfastCampaign/theresearch.html

[4] Kansas State Department of Education. (1999, November 9). Online: http://www.ksbe.state.ks.us/pre/97Readig.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	852	30	9	722	27	7	-9
ANDERSON	417	28	7	383	25	6	-10
ATCHISON	928	31	9	955	28	8	-9
BARBER	230	20	3	254	23	5	15
BARTON	1,535	28	8	1,509	28	8	-2
BOURBON	953	33	10	900	32	9	-2
BROWN	668	32	10	589	30	9	-8
BUTLER	1,931	15	1	1,772	13	1	-11
CHASE	150	23	5	93	18	2	-21
CHAUTAUQUA	289	40	10	242	33	9	-19
CHEROKEE	1,462	37	10	1,544	39	10	5
CHEYENNE	188	28	8	165	25	6	-11
CLARK	106	20	2	116	21	4	9
CLAY	397	23	5	316	19	3	-15
CLOUD	480	29	9	426	26	7	-9
COFFEY	397	20	3	354	18	3	-9
COMANCHE	90	22	4	75	21	4	-5
COWLEY	1,808	26	6	1,855	27	7	4
CRAWFORD	2,054	32	9	2,009	31	9	-1
DECATUR	157	22	4	139	21	4	-4
DICKINSON	1,065	25	6	761	18	2	-30
DONIPHAN	460	28	7	410	25	6	-10
DOUGLAS	2,212	18	2	2,281	17	2	-5
EDWARDS	166	25	5	160	26	6	5
ELK	332	41	10	319	38	10	-6
ELLIS	755	17	1	742	15	1	-9
ELLSWORTH	283	20	2	233	17	2	-12
FINNEY	2,908	34	10	3,220	36	10	5
FORD	2,214	37	10	2,440	39	10	4
FRANKLIN	1,074	22	4	1,087	22	5	0
GEARY	2,656	37	10	2,443	36	10	-3
GOVE	98	13	1	134	17	2	29
GRAHAM	169	27	7	132	25	6	-9

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	511	28	8	527	29	8	2
GRAY	227	18	2	248	19	3	6
GREELEY	87	25	6	68	19	3	-23
GREENWOOD	414	31	9	366	29	8	-8
HAMILTON	133	30	9	175	33	10	12
HARPER	352	28	7	330	27	7	-4
HARVEY	1,335	22	4	1,348	21	4	-3
HASKELL	232	26	6	316	35	10	36
HODGEMAN	92	20	3	87	18	2	-9
JACKSON	502	21	4	475	20	4	-7
JEFFERSON	715	16	1	641	15	1	-9
JEWELL	189	28	7	186	29	8	3
JOHNSON	4,558	6	1	4,663	6	1	-7
KEARNY	384	32	9	410	36	10	11
KINGMAN	399	23	5	346	20	3	-16
KIOWA	147	23	5	129	22	4	-4
LABETTE	1,323	29	8	1,268	28	8	-3
LANE	94	18	2	96	21	4	13
LEAVENWORTH	1,964	16	1	1,903	15	1	-5
LINCOLN	114	19	2	118	19	3	1
LINN	567	28	8	507	25	6	-11
LOGAN	200	28	7	178	27	7	-4
LYON	1,810	28	8	1,921	30	9	6
MARION	510	20	3	462	17	2	-14
MARSHALL	546	20	3	441	16	1	-20
MCPHERSON	703	13	1	566	11	1	-19
MEADE	129	21	3	113	18	2	-15
MIAMI	885	20	2	958	19	3	-2
MITCHELL	374	22	4	404	23	5	4
MONTGOMERY	2,074	31	9	2,022	30	9	-3
MORRIS	302	26	6	253	23	5	-11
MORTON	201	26	7	238	31	9	18
NEMAHA	368	18	2	345	17	2	-8
NEOSHO	939	28	8	933	28	8	-2
NESS	130	17	2	133	19	3	11
NORTON	230	21	3	225	22	4	5
OSAGE	707	22	4	747	22	5	3
OSBORNE	115	22	4	120	23	5	5
OTTAWA	278	21	3	264	20	4	-6
PAWNEE	346	24	5	448	28	7	15
PHILLIPS	261	23	4	266	23	5	4
POTTAWATOMIE	615	16	1	542	14	1	-12
PRATT	355	19	2	377	21	4	8
RAWLINS	165	28	7	152	28	8	-1
RENO	2,946	26	6	2,757	24	6	-8
REPUBLIC	277	25	6	262	25	6	-1
RICE	577	29	8	542	28	7	-4
RILEY	1,531	20	3	1,284	18	2	-11
ROOKS	277	24	5	275	23	5	-2
RUSH	190	26	6	200	28	8	8
RUSSELL	379	27	7	354	26	7	-4
SALINE	2,283	25	6	2,405	26	6	3
SCOTT	252	22	4	217	18	3	-17
SEDGWICK	20,849	28	7	22,453	27	7	-1
SEWARD	2,037	42	10	2,154	43	10	4
SHAWNEE	7,846	28	7	8,357	29	8	2
SHERIDAN	78	16	1	73	15	1	-9
SHERMAN	359	28	8	323	27	7	-5
SMITH	209	24	5	199	25	6	1
STAFFORD	325	28	8	337	30	9	8
STANTON	171	31	9	177	32	9	3
STEVENS	286	24	5	299	25	6	2
SUMNER	1,076	22	4	1,053	21	4	-5
THOMAS	330	20	3	288	18	3	-7
TREGO	130	20	2	106	18	2	-8
WABAUNSEE	215	16	1	213	17	1	1
WALLACE	103	24	5	116	27	7	10
WASHINGTON	359	25	6	335	23	5	-9
WICHITA	142	25	6	109	22	5	-11
WILSON	669	31	9	611	30	9	-4
WOODSON	190	30	9	207	33	9	12
WYANDOTTE	13,855	46	10	14,251	48	10	6
KANSAS	**114,010**	**24**		**115,052**	**23**		**-2**

Data are from Kansas State Board of Education. Negative percent change indicates improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

CHILDREN RECEIVING ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

This measure refers to children receiving cash assistance, medical assistance or food stamps. A recent study revealed that of families participating in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, 98 percent received cash and cash equivalents. Of these families, 84 percent received Food Stamp assistance. In addition, almost all families receiving TANF were eligible to receive medical assistance under the state plan. Seven percent of the recipient children were younger than 2 years of age, and 35 percent were of preschool age, under 6 six years old. Seven percent of the children were 16 years of age or older.[1]

This year, 119,115 (16.2 percent) Kansas children are receiving economic assistance. Counties with at least 25 percent of their children receiving economic assistance include Allen, Bourbon, Chautauqua, Cherokee, Crawford, Elk, Geary, Greenwood, Labette, Neosho and Wyandotte. Compared to the base years period, this year there is a 5 percent increase in the percentage of children receiving economic assistance. Among Kansas counties, Comanche shows the most significant percentage increase, while Seward County shows the greatest percentage decline.

Family income appears to be associated with children who are academically on-track. A report indicates that only 67 percent of children in families with an income below 100 percent of poverty are on-track, compared with 81 percent of children in families with incomes that are 300 percent of poverty or above.[2] Also of concern, financial hardships often prompt other stress-related problems, which may affect a parent's ability to invest time and resources in his or her children, as well as affect the children's ability or motivation to invest in themselves.[3]

[1] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families. (1999, November 29). Characteristics and financial circumstances of TANF recipients: Fiscal Year 1998. On-line: http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opre/characteristics/fy98/sum.htm

[2] U.S. Census Bureau. (1999, November 29). Poverty, family structure, and child well-being: indicators from the SIPP. On-line:http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0023.html

[3] Ibid.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS 1994-98 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR 1999 NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR 1999 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	911	22	9	988	25	10	13
ANDERSON	349	16	7	409	19	7	17
ATCHISON	956	20	9	894	18	7	-8
BARBER	167	11	4	244	17	6	51
BARTON	1,575	20	9	1,669	22	9	9
BOURBON	952	23	10	1,065	26	10	12
BROWN	713	23	9	729	23	9	2
BUTLER	2,038	12	4	2,073	11	2	-3
CHASE	141	18	8	128	17	7	-5
CHAUTAUQUA	266	25	10	299	29	10	15
CHEROKEE	1,733	28	10	1,710	28	10	-2
CHEYENNE	65	8	2	104	13	4	63
CLARK	63	10	3	90	14	4	38
CLAY	346	14	6	347	15	5	3
CLOUD	392	16	7	509	21	8	35
COFFEY	345	14	6	372	15	5	8
COMANCHE	44	9	2	99	20	8	140
COWLEY	2,024	20	9	1,990	20	8	0
CRAWFORD	2,240	25	10	2,386	28	10	10
DECATUR	69	8	1	109	12	3	64
DICKINSON	706	13	6	791	15	5	15
DONIPHAN	425	20	9	408	19	7	-4
DOUGLAS	2,817	13	6	3,179	14	4	8
EDWARDS	131	15	7	145	16	6	13
ELK	203	28	10	251	34	10	22
ELLIS	829	11	4	878	12	2	5
ELLSWORTH	170	11	4	199	14	4	22
FINNEY	1,880	15	7	2,354	17	6	19
FORD	1,594	18	8	2,011	22	9	25
FRANKLIN	1,202	18	8	1,372	19	8	11
GEARY	2,196	26	10	1,841	26	10	-2
GOVE	48	6	1	74	9	1	55
GRAHAM	82	9	2	82	10	2	5

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT CHILDREN RECEIVING ASSISTANCE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	380	13	6	523	18	7	31
GRAY	140	8	2	158	9	1	14
GREELEY	27	5	1	43	8	1	62
GREENWOOD	455	23	9	509	26	10	13
HAMILTON	88	14	6	131	22	9	52
HARPER	301	18	8	291	18	7	-1
HARVEY	1,121	13	5	1,117	12	3	-3
HASKELL	168	12	5	207	14	5	17
HODGEMAN	41	6	1	60	10	1	50
JACKSON	541	15	7	579	16	6	7
JEFFERSON	543	11	3	590	11	2	3
JEWELL	110	11	4	135	14	4	25
JOHNSON	4,501	4	1	5,029	4	1	5
KEARNY	227	16	7	241	16	6	5
KINGMAN	293	12	5	322	13	3	10
KIOWA	117	12	5	145	17	6	36
LABETTE	1,501	23	10	1,576	25	10	6
LANE	79	12	5	85	14	5	16
LEAVENWORTH	2,288	12	4	2,411	12	3	5
LINCOLN	84	10	3	100	13	3	24
LINN	400	17	8	554	23	9	34
LOGAN	88	10	3	95	12	2	13
LYON	1,779	18	8	1,885	19	8	8
MARION	345	11	3	423	13	3	23
MARSHALL	325	11	3	364	13	3	16
MCPHERSON	688	9	2	734	10	1	6
MEADE	86	7	1	144	12	2	67
MIAMI	849	11	4	912	12	2	3
MITCHELL	164	9	2	191	10	2	20
MONTGOMERY	2,411	24	10	2,310	23	9	-2
MORRIS	268	17	7	235	15	5	-8
MORTON	128	12	4	187	17	6	41
NEMAHA	196	6	1	308	11	2	65
NEOSHO	1,056	23	10	1,119	25	9	6
NESS	59	6	1	89	10	1	60
NORTON	182	14	6	215	16	5	18
OSAGE	663	14	6	844	17	6	21
OSBORNE	130	12	4	142	14	4	17
OTTAWA	192	13	5	205	13	4	6
PAWNEE	255	13	6	289	16	6	23
PHILLIPS	169	11	3	265	18	7	69
POTTAWATOMIE	584	11	3	681	12	3	12
PRATT	345	13	6	355	14	4	4
RAWLINS	62	7	1	66	8	1	10
RENO	3,324	20	9	3,659	22	9	10
REPUBLIC	181	13	5	223	16	6	28
RICE	517	19	8	530	20	8	5
RILEY	1,551	10	2	1,504	10	2	-5
ROOKS	202	13	5	253	17	6	33
RUSH	130	16	7	157	21	8	31
RUSSELL	314	17	8	380	21	8	23
SALINE	2,353	17	7	2,708	19	7	16
SCOTT	123	8	2	153	10	2	28
SEDGWICK	23,815	19	9	24,321	19	7	-2
SEWARD	1,444	22	9	1,308	19	7	-13
SHAWNEE	8,498	19	9	9,313	21	8	10
SHERIDAN	37	5	1	66	8	1	80
SHERMAN	295	16	7	371	21	8	32
SMITH	144	13	6	195	19	7	44
STAFFORD	231	17	7	285	21	9	27
STANTON	72	9	2	105	13	3	40
STEVENS	224	13	5	278	16	5	20
SUMNER	1,050	13	5	1,034	13	3	-3
THOMAS	284	11	4	333	14	4	22
TREGO	73	8	2	118	14	4	73
WABAUNSEE	194	10	3	176	9	1	-10
WALLACE	50	9	2	84	15	5	64
WASHINGTON	184	11	3	228	14	4	30
WICHITA	106	12	4	131	15	5	25
WILSON	519	19	8	655	24	9	28
WOODSON	184	19	8	205	21	9	15
WYANDOTTE	14,089	31	10	13,719	30	10	-2
KANSAS	**112,290**	**15**		**119,115**	**16.2**		**5**

Data are for the months of June, 1994 through 1999 and include all children receiving cash assistance, medical assistance, or food stamps. Data provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimates derived from U.S. Census.

CHILDHOOD DEATHS

The childhood death rate refers to the number of deaths per 100,000 children ages 1 to 14 years, from all causes. From 1985 to 1996, the Kansas childhood death rate declined from 39 to 31, which reflects a 21 percent improvement in the state's rate.[1] In 1998, Kansas suffered 150 childhood deaths. When compared to the previous five-year period, there was a slight increase in the state's childhood death rate. While some of the larger counties such as Johnson, Wyandotte and Riley experienced an increase in childhood death rate this past year, Sedgwick, Douglas, and Leavenworth celebrated a decline. Caution is warranted when looking at the childhood death rates for less populated counties. Significant changes in the death rate do not necessarily reflect dramatic changes in the actual number of childhood deaths. For example, for Ellsworth and Washington counties, the tragic death of one child in 1998 caused a 425 percent increase in their childhood death rate, when compared to the county's rate for the previous base years period.

Even though the unintentional death rate among children 14 years of age and younger has declined 30 percent from 1987 to 1996 in the United States, unintentional injuries continue to be the leading cause of death among this age group. Among 1-to 4-year-olds, the leading cause of unintentional injury-related deaths is drowning, with motor vehicle occupant injury the second major cause. Among children ages 5-14, motor vehicle occupant injury is the leading cause of unintentional deaths, followed by pedestrian injury. The vast majority of childhood injuries occur between the months of May and August, and the majority of deaths related to unintentional injuries occur during the evening hours. Sadly enough, it is estimated that approximately 90 percent of unintentional injuries are preventable.[2]

[1] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1999). KIDS COUNT Data Book 1999, Baltimore, MD.
[2] National SAFE KIDS Campaign. (1999, September 7). Online: http://www.safekids.org/fact99/child99.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	.4	13.0	2	1	33.7	7.0	160
ANDERSON	1.0	62.9	10	1	64.0	9.0	2
ATCHISON	1.0	28.7	5	1	29.2	7.0	2
BARBER	.6	50.8	9	0	+	+	+
BARTON	.8	13.2	2	0	.0	6.0	-100
BOURBON	1.2	40.9	7	1	34.6	7.0	-15
BROWN	1.0	42.7	8	1	43.8	8.0	3
BUTLER	2.4	18.8	4	3	23.0	7.0	22
CHASE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	.4	52.0	9	0	+	+	+
CHEROKEE	1.4	31.4	6	2	45.6	8.0	45
CHEYENNE	.4	67.0	10	0	+	+	+
CLARK	.8	172.4	10	0	+	+	+
CLAY	.8	43.8	8	0	+	+	+
CLOUD	.6	32.7	6	0	+	+	+
COFFEY	.8	44.5	8	0	+	+	+
COMANCHE	.2	51.5	9	0	+	+	+
COWLEY	2.8	36.9	7	1	13.5	6.0	-63
CRAWFORD	1.8	27.7	5	3	47.8	8.0	72
DECATUR	.2	27.6	5	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	1.4	35.5	7	3	77.9	9.0	119
DONIPHAN	.4	25.9	5	0	+	+	+
DOUGLAS	2.4	16.7	3	2	13.7	6.0	-18
EDWARDS	.2	28.9	5	1	150.1	10.0	420
ELK	.2	37.5	7	0	+	+	+
ELLIS	1.6	30.1	6	1	19.1	6.0	-37
ELLSWORTH	.2	17.8	4	1	93.5	10.0	425
FINNEY	3.6	37.3	7	2	20.3	6.0	-46
FORD	2.8	42.4	8	3	45.2	8.0	7
FRANKLIN	2.0	39.5	7	2	39.5	7.0	0
GEARY	3.8	57.5	9	3	52.9	9.0	-8
GOVE	.6	93.3	10	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	.2	29.7	5	0	+	+	+

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	1.0	47.1	9	1	46.4	8.0	-2
GRAY	.2	14.8	3	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	.4	90.9	10	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
HAMILTON	.4	88.8	10	0	+	+	+
HARPER	.2	15.5	3	1	80.7	9.0	421
HARVEY	1.6	24.7	5	4	62.1	9.0	152
HASKELL	.2	20.1	4	2	200.9	10.0	901
HODGEMAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	1.2	46.2	9	2	77.9	9.0	69
JEFFERSON	.8	21.8	4	0	.0	6.0	-100
JEWELL	.8	110.6	10	0	+	+	+
JOHNSON	13.0	15.7	3	19	22.5	7.0	43
KEARNY	.4	36.3	7	0	+	+	+
KINGMAN	1.2	66.9	10	1	56.8	9.0	-15
KIOWA	.2	28.7	5	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	2.8	60.3	9	3	66.8	9.0	11
LANE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LEAVENWORTH	3.2	21.9	4	2	13.8	6.0	-37
LINCOLN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LINN	.8	46.2	8	1	57.1	9.0	24
LOGAN	.0	+	+	1	164.9	10.0	*
LYON	2.6	35.3	7	3	42.0	8.0	19
MARION	.8	33.9	6	0	+	+	+
MARSHALL	1.2	50.7	9	0	+	+	+
MCPHERSON	1.0	17.4	4	3	52.7	8.0	204
MEADE	.4	42.8	8	0	+	+	+
MIAMI	1.4	26.0	5	0	.0	6.0	-100
MITCHELL	.6	43.7	8	0	+	+	+
MONTGOMERY	1.2	16.1	3	2	28.0	7.0	73
MORRIS	.4	33.1	6	1	86.3	10.0	161
MORTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	1.0	42.9	8	0	+	+	+
NEOSHO	1.6	47.1	9	0	+	+	+
NESS	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
NORTON	.4	42.7	8	0	+	+	+
OSAGE	.6	17.4	4	0	+	+	+
OSBORNE	1.6	190.0	10	0	+	+	+
OTTAWA	.4	35.1	7	0	+	+	+
PAWNEE	.6	42.4	8	1	75.4	9.0	78
PHILLIPS	.0	+	+	1	88.8	10.0	*
POTTAWATOMIE	1.0	24.8	5	2	49.2	8.0	98
PRATT	.6	31.3	6	0	+	+	+
RAWLINS	.4	59.2	9	0	+	+	+
RENO	4.0	32.3	6	4	32.9	7.0	2
REPUBLIC	.4	37.3	7	0	+	+	+
RICE	.4	18.9	4	1	48.6	8.0	157
RILEY	1.8	15.6	3	5	46.4	8.0	197
ROOKS	.2	16.5	3	0	+	+	+
RUSH	.2	31.1	6	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	.2	14.5	2	0	+	+	+
SALINE	2.2	20.8	4	0	.0	6.0	-100
SCOTT	.2	17.8	4	2	186.1	10.0	946
SEDGWICK	28.2	30.2	6	25	26.7	7.0	-12
SEWARD	.8	15.9	3	1	19.5	6.0	23
SHAWNEE	10.0	30.4	6	10	31.1	7.0	2
SHERIDAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	.0	+	+	4	303.1	10.0	*
SMITH	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STANTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	.2	15.6	3	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	3.0	50.4	9	0	.0	6.0	-100
THOMAS	.4	22.0	4	0	+	+	+
TREGO	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WABAUNSEE	.2	14.4	2	1	73.0	9.0	406
WALLACE	.0	+	+	1	258.5	10.0	*
WASHINGTON	.2	16.0	3	1	84.2	10.0	425
WICHITA	.6	88.0	10	0	+	+	+
WILSON	.8	39.7	7	0	+	+	+
WOODSON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	11.8	34.8	6	13	39.6	7.0	14
KANSAS	**150**	**28.1**		**150**	**28.4**		**1.1**

Mortality data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Childhood mortality rates represent the number of deaths per 100,000 children age 1-14. Population data are extrapolated from the U.S. Census. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.

* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of children less than 1 year old per 1000 live births. In 1998, Kansas celebrated an 8.2 percent improvement in the infant mortality rate, when compared to the previous five-year period. Among the most populous counties, Wyandotte, and Johnson counties successfully experienced a decline in the infant mortality rate, while Sedgwick and Shawnee counties showed an increase. Riley, Butler, Douglas and Reno counties are recognized as showing significant improvement. Of the 59 counties reflecting a percent change rate, 29 counties showed improvement. Based on the most recent available national data, Kansas ranked 37th in 1996 (highest/best rank =1, lowest/worst rank = 51), with an infant mortality rate of 8.3.[1] With its recent decline in infant mortality rate to 7.14, Kansas moves closer to meeting, or doing better than, the infant mortality objective set for Year 2000, which is 7.0.[2]

In 1997, the leading causes of infant mortality were congenital anomalies (birth defects), disorders related to low birth weight, and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), respectively. Together, these causes accounted for nearly 50 percent of all infant deaths in the United States. Respiratory distress syndrome and maternal complications were also recognized as major causes.[3] With advances in public health and clinical medicine, the infant mortality rate in the United States declined 39.8 percent from 1980-1995. Infant deaths due to birth defects, which were the leading cause, declined 34.2 percent. For infant mortality attributable to birth defects, cardiovascular defects were the single largest contributor. Central nervous system defects were the second largest contributor. According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a key factor in reducing the overall infant mortality rate is improving access to perinatal and other preventive and health-care services.[4]

	BASE YEARS - 1993-97			CURRENT YEAR - 1998			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	INFANT MORTALITY RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	INFANT MORTALITY RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	1	3.4	2	0	.0	5	-100.00
ANDERSON	1	6.9	5	0	*	*	*
ATCHISON	1	5.7	4	0	.0	5	-100.00
BARBER	0	7.2	5	0	*	*	*
BARTON	5	13.3	10	4	10.5	8	-21.09
BOURBON	1	6.3	4	1	5.3	6	-15.34
BROWN	1	7.5	6	1	7.3	7	-2.19
BUTLER	6	8.6	7	3	3.8	6	-55.70
CHASE	0	4.5	3	1	18.5	10	309.26
CHAUTAUQUA	1	31.8	10	3	73.2	10	129.76
CHEROKEE	2	7.4	6	2	7.2	7	-2.37
CHEYENNE	0	7.3	6	1	31.3	10	328.12
CLARK	0	16.5	10	0	*	*	*
CLAY	1	6.5	5	1	9.6	8	47.44
CLOUD	1	7.5	6	0	*	*	*
COFFEY	1	7.5	6	2	22.7	10	202.84
COMANCHE	0	10.1	9	0	*	*	*
COWLEY	3	7.3	6	1	2.4	6	-67.06
CRAWFORD	3	5.8	4	2	3.6	6	-38.22
DECATUR	0	5.5	4	0	*	*	*
DICKINSON	2	7.3	6	1	4.8	6	-34.03
DONIPHAN	0	2.1	2	0	*	*	*
DOUGLAS	7	6.7	5	4	3.4	6	-49.08
EDWARDS	0	10.8	9	0	*	*	*
ELK	0	7.4	6	0	*	*	*
ELLIS	3	8.6	7	2	6.4	7	-25.22
ELLSWORTH	0	7.9	6	1	16.7	9	111.67
FINNEY	5	6.4	5	7	7.7	7	19.65
FORD	5	8.1	7	8	12.2	9	49.80
FRANKLIN	3	10.1	9	4	11.2	9	10.88
GEARY	10	12.6	9	7	11.0	9	-12.81
GOVE	1	16.5	10	0	*	*	*
GRAHAM	0	8.0	7	0	*	*	*

[1] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1999). KIDS COUNT Data Book:1999, Baltimore, MD

[2] Guyer, G., Martin, J., MacDorman, M., Anderson, R., and Strobino, D. (1997). Annual summary of vital statistics-1996. Pediatrics,100(6), 905-918.

[3] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. (1999, September 9). Infant mortality rates vary by race and ethnicity. Online: http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/releases/99facts/99sheets/infmort.htm

[4] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1998, September 25). Morbidity and mortality weekly report, 47(37). Online //http://www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00054921.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	1	8.4	7	2	12.1	9	44.65
GRAY	1	6.9	5	0	*	*	*
GREELEY	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
GREENWOOD	1	10.0	8	1	12.0	9	21.08
HAMILTON	0	7.2	5	1	26.3	10	263.16
HARPER	0	3.1	2	0	*	*	*
HARVEY	3	8.2	7	3	7.3	7	-10.61
HASKELL	0	2.6	2	0	*	*	*
HODGEMAN	0	11.1	9	0	*	*	*
JACKSON	1	4.9	3	0	.0	5	-100.00
JEFFERSON	3	15.0	10	3	13.8	9	-8.17
JEWELL	0	5.6	4	0	*	*	*
JOHNSON	31	5.2	3	32	5.0	6	-4.22
KEARNY	0	2.9	2	0	*	*	*
KINGMAN	1	10.3	9	2	22.5	10	117.53
KIOWA	0	9.5	8	0	*	*	*
LABETTE	1	3.5	3	0	.0	5	-100.00
LANE	0	16.8	10	0	*	*	*
LEAVENWORTH	8	8.9	8	6	7.1	7	-19.74
LINCOLN	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
LINN	1	8.7	7	0	*	*	*
LOGAN	0	6.1	4	1	32.3	10	425.81
LYON	4	8.0	7	3	6.5	7	-19.11
MARION	0	2.8	2	1	6.6	7	132.78
MARSHALL	0	3.9	3	1	8.4	8	117.65
MCPHERSON	3	7.9	7	3	8.1	8	1.99
MEADE	1	15.2	10	2	31.3	10	105.00
MIAMI	2	7.4	6	2	5.5	6	-26.32
MITCHELL	0	5.7	4	1	15.6	9	171.88
MONTGOMERY	3	7.2	5	3	6.5	7	-9.43
MORRIS	0	5.3	3	0	*	*	*
MORTON	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
NEMAHA	2	12.9	10	3	17.8	9	37.48
NEOSHO	0	2.0	2	0	.0	5	-100.00
NESS	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
NORTON	0	3.4	2	0	*	*	*
OSAGE	1	6.2	4	1	5.2	6	-15.80
OSBORNE	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
OTTAWA	0	3.1	2	0	*	*	*
PAWNEE	2	21.2	10	0	*	*	*
PHILLIPS	0	5.8	4	0	*	*	*
POTTAWATOMIE	2	6.2	4	1	3.8	6	-39.29
PRATT	1	9.0	8	1	9.2	8	1.65
RAWLINS	0	7.3	6	0	*	*	*
RENO	7	8.8	8	5	6.0	7	-32.30
REPUBLIC	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
RICE	1	10.1	8	2	15.5	9	54.01
RILEY	4	4.2	3	1	1.1	5	-73.56
ROOKS	1	12.5	9	1	16.7	9	33.33
RUSH	0	6.1	4	0	*	*	*
RUSSELL	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
SALINE	6	7.9	7	8	9.8	8	23.85
SCOTT	1	11.9	9	0	*	*	*
SEDGWICK	66	9.2	8	71	9.5	8	3.72
SEWARD	3	6.4	5	3	6.2	7	-3.00
SHAWNEE	21	8.9	8	23	9.6	8	8.22
SHERIDAN	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
SHERMAN	0	4.8	3	0	*	*	*
SMITH	0	9.5	8	0	*	*	*
STAFFORD	1	19.4	10	2	28.2	10	45.35
STANTON	0	9.7	8	0	*	*	*
STEVENS	0	4.8	3	0	*	*	*
SUMNER	2	5.5	3	2	5.9	6	7.46
THOMAS	1	8.8	7	1	9.5	8	8.76
TREGO	0	6.6	5	0	*	*	*
WABAUNSEE	0	2.7	2	0	*	*	*
WALLACE	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
WASHINGTON	0	2.8	2	0	*	*	*
WICHITA	0	10.6	9	1	25.6	10	141.03
WILSON	1	10.5	9	0	*	*	*
WOODSON	0	.0	1	0	*	*	*
WYANDOTTE	28	10.4	9	25	9.2	8	-11.71
KANSAS	**288**	**7.78**		**274**	**7.14**		**-8.2**

Mortality data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Infant mortality rates represent the number of infant deaths per 1,000 infants. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE

Early prenatal care refers to care which begins during the first three months of pregnancy. In addition to receiving medical care, an expectant mother's prenatal care services should include assessments of nutritional, psychosocial, and health educational risks, as well as individualized counseling.[1] Early and continuous prenatal care may also serve to detect possible health concerns or complications for the unborn baby or the expectant mother. A recent study revealed that an expectant mother is more likely to delay prenatal care beyond the first trimester if she is a teenager, has never been married, has never worked, did not finish high school, considered her pregnancy unwanted or unplanned at the time of conception, or has a low income and receives Medicaid for prenatal care and delivery costs.[2]

Children of mothers who fail to receive proper prenatal care are less likely to receive their full primary vaccination series by 2 years of age.[3] In addition, these children are less likely to maintain recommended well-child visits to the pediatrician.[4]

In 1998, 86 percent of all Kansas newborns had received early prenatal care. When compared to the base years period, slight improvement can be seen. Counties applauded for achieving at least a 10 percent increase in the percent of births with early prenatal care include Bourbon, Grant, Linn, Marshall and Seward. In 24 counties, 90 percent or more of their 1998 births received early prenatal care. Nine counties showed a 10 percent, or greater, decline in the percent of births with early prenatal. Counties such as Chautauqua, Greeley, Kiowa and Stafford are of concern, having dropped in their percent of births with early prenatal care to 70 percent or less. Of serious concern, only 55 percent of the 494 births in Finney County received early prenatal care, compared to 59 percent of the county's births for the base years period.

[1] Limpson, L., Korenbrot, C., and Greene, J. (1997). Outcomes of enhanced prenatal services for Medicaid-eligible women in public and private settings. Public Health Reports, 112(2), 122-132.

[2] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Center for Health Statistics. (1999, September 9). Health aspects of pregnancy and childbirth: United States, 1982-88. Online: http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/products/pubs/pubd/series/sr23/pre-1/sr23_18.htm

[3] Bates, A and Wolinsky, F. (1998). Personal, financial, and structural barriers to immunization in socio-economically disadvantaged urban children. Pediatrics, 101(4), 591-596.

[4] Kogan, M., Alexander, G., Jack, B., and Allen, M. (1998). The association between adequacy in prenatal care utilization and subsequent pediatric care utilization in the United States. Pediatrics, 102(1), 25-30.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	152	86	5	138	90	2	5
ANDERSON	73	84	7	95	83	7	-1
ATCHISON	170	81	8	176	78	8	-4
BARBER	45	82	7	45	88	4	8
BARTON	312	83	7	301	79	8	-4
BOURBON	153	80	8	168	89	3	12
BROWN	112	84	7	116	85	5	2
BUTLER	640	89	2	689	88	4	-1
CHASE	37	84	6	47	89	4	5
CHAUTAUQUA	25	79	9	27	66	10	-17
CHEROKEE	236	80	9	222	81	7	2
CHEYENNE	24	88	4	27	84	6	-4
CLARK	20	84	6	20	91	2	8
CLAY	79	86	5	93	89	3	4
CLOUD	94	88	3	96	89	4	0
COFFEY	95	89	2	81	92	1	3
COMANCHE	16	81	8	19	73	9	-10
COWLEY	396	85	6	370	89	4	4
CRAWFORD	410	86	5	459	83	6	-3
DECATUR	32	87	4	23	74	9	-15
DICKINSON	188	85	6	184	88	4	4
DONIPHAN	76	82	8	102	88	5	8
DOUGLAS	932	88	4	980	84	6	-4
EDWARDS	30	80	8	37	74	9	-8
ELK	23	87	4	24	83	7	-5
ELLIS	302	93	1	290	93	1	1
ELLSWORTH	44	87	4	55	92	2	5
FINNEY	490	59	10	494	55	10	-6
FORD	384	65	10	449	68	10	5
FRANKLIN	269	85	6	294	83	6	-3
GEARY	580	71	10	475	75	9	6
GOVE	31	85	6	33	89	3	5
GRAHAM	23	93	1	22	85	6	-9

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	99	70	10	127	79	8	13
GRAY	69	81	8	80	73	9	-9
GREELEY	14	81	8	15	65	10	-19
GREENWOOD	65	81	8	63	80	8	-2
HAMILTON	21	78	9	28	74	9	-5
HARPER	53	83	7	56	81	7	-2
HARVEY	331	85	6	346	85	6	0
HASKELL	47	63	10	47	64	10	1
HODGEMAN	16	88	3	12	75	9	-15
JACKSON	151	93	1	139	89	3	-5
JEFFERSON	177	89	2	192	88	4	-1
JEWELL	30	86	5	28	90	2	5
JOHNSON	5,611	94	1	6,108	95	1	2
KEARNY	44	65	10	42	68	10	3
KINGMAN	83	86	5	72	82	7	-5
KIOWA	34	81	8	28	70	10	-14
LABETTE	243	86	5	233	84	6	-2
LANE	21	87	4	21	75	9	-13
LEAVENWORTH	774	91	2	756	90	3	-1
LINCOLN	26	90	2	23	92	2	2
LINN	74	81	8	90	91	2	13
LOGAN	29	90	2	28	90	2	1
LYON	394	79	9	354	80	8	1
MARION	122	87	4	127	85	5	-2
MARSHALL	86	83	7	110	92	1	11
MCPHERSON	279	85	6	326	88	5	3
MEADE	49	76	10	50	82	7	8
MIAMI	287	89	2	345	95	1	6
MITCHELL	61	87	4	54	84	6	-3
MONTGOMERY	385	87	4	403	88	5	1
MORRIS	65	86	5	61	88	4	3
MORTON	38	69	10	32	73	9	6
NEMAHA	127	91	1	150	89	4	-2
NEOSHO	174	86	5	177	90	2	4
NESS	32	84	7	34	87	5	4
NORTON	51	88	3	44	88	5	0
OSAGE	177	91	1	174	91	2	0
OSBORNE	41	95	1	33	94	1	0
OTTAWA	60	93	1	54	89	4	-5
PAWNEE	64	86	6	63	85	6	-1
PHILLIPS	61	88	3	45	82	7	-7
POTTAWATOMIE	223	86	5	237	89	3	3
PRATT	97	88	3	81	75	9	-15
RAWLINS	25	90	2	24	83	7	-8
RENO	628	79	9	663	79	8	0
REPUBLIC	44	88	3	57	84	6	-5
RICE	97	82	7	98	76	8	-7
RILEY	793	83	7	794	88	5	6
ROOKS	59	92	1	54	90	2	-2
RUSH	29	88	3	28	93	1	6
RUSSELL	63	87	4	82	92	1	6
SALINE	661	91	2	728	90	3	-1
SCOTT	50	76	9	45	82	7	8
SEDGWICK	6,149	86	5	6,445	87	5	1
SEWARD	222	52	10	282	59	10	14
SHAWNEE	2,101	90	2	2,123	89	3	-1
SHERIDAN	22	89	3	17	81	8	-9
SHERMAN	70	84	6	88	88	5	4
SMITH	37	88	3	35	92	1	5
STAFFORD	40	79	9	50	70	10	-11
STANTON	31	76	9	31	82	7	7
STEVENS	55	68	10	53	68	10	1
SUMNER	282	86	6	303	89	3	4
THOMAS	100	88	4	92	88	5	0
TREGO	29	96	1	27	93	1	-3
WABAUNSEE	65	88	3	61	90	3	2
WALLACE	18	78	9	19	79	8	1
WASHINGTON	63	89	2	56	82	7	-7
WICHITA	29	77	9	27	71	9	-8
WILSON	94	83	7	108	83	6	1
WOODSON	28	84	7	38	90	2	8
WYANDOTTE	2,138	79	9	2,124	78	8	-1
KANSAS	**31,401**	**85**		**32,691**	**86**		**1**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Positive percent change represents improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

KINDERGARTNERS FULLY IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2

This measure refers to those kindergartners who, by age 2, have received the "4:3:1 Series Coverage," which includes four or more doses of the Diphtheria and Tetanus Toxoids and Pertussis vaccine (DTP), three or more doses of the live oral Poliovirus vaccine (OPV), as well as one or more doses of Measles-Mumps Rubella vaccine (MMR). One study revealed that while an estimated 98 percent of children in the United States receive their basic series of immunizations by the time they enter school, only 67 percent of 2-year-olds are appropriately immunized.[1] This data indicates that a significantly high percentage of young children remain unprotected against various preventable childhood diseases for an extended period of time.

One of the Healthy People 2000 objectives is that 90 percent of 2-year-old children successfully receive the "4:3:1 Series Coverage." Toward accomplishing this target, it is critical to further efforts in educating parents about the role of vaccines as a means of mobilizing the body's natural defenses.[2] In addition, health-care providers should explore and implement procedures to avoid missed opportunities in vaccinating young children, such as during acute-care visits, when appropriate. Other ways of promoting full utilization of vaccines include ensuring that vaccine supplies and financing are more secure.[3]

In 1998, 71 percent of Kansas kindergartners had been fully immunized by the age of 2. Nemaha, Sheridan, Smith and Trego counties celebrated rates higher than 90 percent. Counties with less than 60 percent of their kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 include Labette, Sedgwick, Seward and Wyandotte. When compared to the base years period, the state's rate has improved 17 percent. Improvements can be seen in all but five counties (Comanche, Douglas, Leavenworth, Lincoln and Sedgwick). Neosho County is applauded for showing the most significant improvement (91 percent) in the rate of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-96 ESTIMATED AVERAGE NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1993-96 AVERAGE PERCENT IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1993-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 ESTIMATED NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT IMMUNIZED	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	103	54	8	133	78	5	45
ANDERSON	55	53	8	67	69	9	28
ATCHISON	66	43	10	118	68	9	59
BARBER	59	63	5	65	84	2	33
BARTON	199	54	8	208	65	10	21
BOURBON	102	53	8	142	71	8	35
BROWN	78	58	6	79	77	5	33
BUTLER	557	64	4	679	78	5	21
CHASE	25	60	6	31	79	4	32
CHAUTAUQUA	27	53	8	42	76	6	44
CHEROKEE	131	46	9	182	65	10	40
CHEYENNE	24	61	6	24	67	9	10
CLARK	20	51	9	27	67	9	30
CLAY	75	65	4	82	79	5	21
CLOUD	53	49	9	63	74	7	50
COFFEY	80	61	6	89	80	4	31
COMANCHE	22	75	1	22	71	8	-5
COWLEY	300	62	6	295	68	9	9
CRAWFORD	218	50	9	284	69	9	39
DECATUR	29	60	6	43	89	1	50
DICKINSON	188	63	5	189	71	8	13
DONIPHAN	53	46	10	84	75	7	63
DOUGLAS	687	76	1	669	74	7	-2
EDWARDS	29	62	5	35	79	5	26
ELK	21	47	9	20	76	6	62
ELLIS	172	63	5	202	86	2	37
ELLSWORTH	59	69	2	53	87	2	25
FINNEY	387	46	10	597	69	8	51
FORD	275	57	7	371	74	7	31
FRANKLIN	196	56	8	270	76	6	37
GEARY	409	58	7	387	66	10	15
GOVE	28	56	7	47	88	1	57
GRAHAM	15	37	10	23	69	9	84

[1] Kimmel, S., Madlon-Kay, D., Burns, L., and Admire, J. (1996). Breaking the barriers of childhood immunization. American Family Physician, 53(5), 1648-1659.

[2] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1999, September 7). Achievements in public health, 1900-1999: impact of vaccines universally recommended for children - United States, 1990-1998. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 48(12), 243-248. Online: http://www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056803.htm

[3] Kimmel, S., Madlon-Kay, D., Burns, L., and Admire, J. (1996). Breaking the barriers of childhood immunization. American Family Physician, 53(5), 1648-1659.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-96 ESTIMATED AVERAGE NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1993-96 AVERAGE PERCENT IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1993-96 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 ESTIMATED NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT IMMUNIZED	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	69	53	8	107	82	3	55
GRAY	61	68	3	69	72	7	7
GREELEY	17	65	4	16	83	3	27
GREENWOOD	39	45	10	61	80	4	79
HAMILTON	23	73	1	29	81	4	10
HARPER	58	72	2	58	82	3	14
HARVEY	279	70	2	302	80	4	14
HASKELL	36	51	9	44	71	8	40
HODGEMAN	20	65	4	27	88	1	35
JACKSON	123	77	1	111	82	3	6
JEFFERSON	204	71	2	208	74	7	4
JEWELL	35	74	1	27	74	7	1
JOHNSON	3,630	72	2	4,080	82	3	14
KEARNY	73	66	4	67	77	6	17
KINGMAN	65	68	3	64	76	6	12
KIOWA	31	66	3	37	88	1	32
LABETTE	159	48	9	171	57	10	17
LANE	22	66	4	24	81	4	22
LEAVENWORTH	606	70	2	561	68	9	-3
LINCOLN	28	79	1	23	78	5	-1
LINN	64	50	9	82	73	7	44
LOGAN	20	66	3	23	89	1	34
LYON	277	62	6	351	81	4	32
MARION	111	63	5	128	79	5	25
MARSHALL	90	56	7	98	71	8	26
MCPHERSON	253	72	2	237	75	6	4
MEADE	30	67	3	45	85	2	28
MIAMI	171	56	7	207	71	8	27
MITCHELL	60	60	6	64	81	4	34
MONTGOMERY	195	43	10	256	63	10	47
MORRIS	53	66	3	60	83	3	25
MORTON	34	57	7	37	70	8	23
NEMAHA	102	74	1	103	92	1	25
NEOSHO	69	32	10	123	62	10	91
NESS	28	68	3	30	82	3	20
NORTON	39	53	8	60	87	2	65
OSAGE	137	63	5	175	84	2	33
OSBORNE	21	56	7	26	81	4	46
OTTAWA	57	73	2	51	78	5	8
PAWNEE	45	53	8	61	84	2	57
PHILLIPS	48	58	7	53	68	9	19
POTTAWATOMIE	167	67	3	197	87	2	30
PRATT	62	58	7	69	70	8	21
RAWLINS	21	64	4	19	69	8	8
RENO	513	67	3	471	69	9	3
REPUBLIC	31	50	9	36	73	7	47
RICE	77	61	6	84	76	6	25
RILEY	395	69	3	370	73	7	6
ROOKS	46	65	4	62	85	2	31
RUSH	26	59	6	35	86	2	45
RUSSELL	51	54	8	52	72	7	32
SALINE	436	70	2	473	77	6	10
SCOTT	53	66	4	62	77	5	18
SEDGWICK	3,312	58	7	3,353	57	10	-2
SEWARD	180	43	10	257	59	10	37
SHAWNEE	1,389	72	2	1,528	83	3	16
SHERIDAN	19	75	1	14	93	1	24
SHERMAN	56	62	5	48	83	3	32
SMITH	33	64	5	45	93	1	46
STAFFORD	41	56	7	44	75	6	33
STANTON	32	74	1	34	81	4	10
STEVENS	34	41	10	52	68	9	63
SUMNER	197	60	6	215	76	6	26
THOMAS	73	70	2	77	78	5	11
TREGO	23	64	4	26	91	1	41
WABAUNSEE	53	64	5	57	80	4	25
WALLACE	22	78	1	19	85	2	8
WASHINGTON	68	65	4	85	88	1	35
WICHITA	25	63	5	32	77	6	22
WILSON	70	47	9	100	82	3	73
WOODSON	18	47	9	22	62	10	32
WYANDOTTE	831	38	10	994	49	10	29
KANSAS	**20,575**	**60**		**22,911**	**71**		**17**

Data are from Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Rates are percent of kindergartners who were fully immunized by age 2, base on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates. As a result of rounding counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks and counties displaying identical base and current year percentages may have a non-zero percent change. The number of children immunized is derived from the immunization sample data and kindergarten enrollment figures.

LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES

Newborns weighing less than 5 pounds, 8 ounces at birth are considered low-birth-weight babies. In the United States, the principal determinant of low-birth-weight babies is pre-term delivery, which is birth prior to 37 completed weeks of gestation.[1] Low-birth-weight babies are 40 times more likely to die within their first 28 days of life than normal-birth-weight babies.[2] Advances in neonatal medicine have increased the survival rate of these tiny infants; however, serious concerns remain about how these infants will develop and whether or not they will lead normal, productive lives. While many low-birth-weight children have normal outcomes, as a group they generally exhibit higher rates of subnormal growth, illnesses and neuro-developmental problems. The likelihood of these problems increases as the child's birth weight decreases.[3]

Although there are many known risk factors outside the mother's immediate control that are associated with low birth weight, such as socioeconomic status, ethnicity, genetic makeup and obstetric history, the mother's lifestyle behaviors also play a critical role in determining fetal growth. Cigarette smoking is recognized as the highest known risk factor for low birth weight. It is estimated that about 20 percent of all low-birth-weight births could have been avoided if the mother chose not to smoke during her pregnancy.[4]

In 1998, 7 percent of all Kansas live births were recorded as low-birth-weight babies. When compared to the base years period, this indicates a 4.5 percent increase in the percent of newborns at greater risk of various health conditions and neuro-developmental disorders. Some of the less populated counties showed a significant change in their ratings among Kansas counties. Republic, Trego and Greeley counties, recognized during the base years period in the best 10 percent, were rated in the worst 10 percent for 1998. The high percent of low-birth-weight babies in counties such as Stafford (16.9 percent) and Hamilton (21.1 percent) also raises concerns. Douglas, Shawnee and Wyandotte are among the more populous counties that improved more than 5 percent in the percent of low-birth-weight babies. According to the national KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1999, Kansas showed a 13 percent increase in the percent of low-birth-weight babies, when comparing 1985 (6.1) to 1996 (6.9). Even though the percent of low-birth-weight babies in Kansas remained less than the national average (6.8 in 1985, 7.4 in 1996), a greater percentage increase in the state's rate than the national average rate raises concern.[5]

[1] Paneth, N. (1995). The problem of low birth weight. The Future of Children, 5(1), 19-34.
[2] Kotagal, N. (1993). Newborn consequences of teenage pregnancies. Pediatr Ann, 22, 127-132.
[3] Hack, M., Klein, N., and Taylor, G. (1995). Long-term developmental outcomes of low-birth-weight infants. The Future of Children,5 (1), Spring.
[4] Chomitz, V., Cheung, L., and Lieberman, E. (1995). The role of lifestyle in preventing low birth weight. The Future of Children, 5(1), Spring.
[5] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1999). KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1999, Baltimore, MD.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS 1993-97 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR 1998 NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR 1998 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	10	5.5	4	12	7.8	7	41
ANDERSON	6	6.4	6	6	5.2	3	-19
ATCHISON	12	5.5	3	11	4.8	3	-12
BARBER	4	7.2	9	6	11.8	10	63
BARTON	26	7.0	8	25	6.5	6	-6
BOURBON	13	6.6	7	10	5.3	4	-19
BROWN	7	5.5	4	7	5.1	3	-7
BUTLER	49	6.8	7	67	8.5	8	25
CHASE	3	7.7	9	2	3.7	2	-52
CHAUTAUQUA	2	5.7	4	2	4.9	3	-15
CHEROKEE	19	6.5	6	13	4.7	3	-28
CHEYENNE	1	2.2	1	2	6.3	5	185
CLARK	2	6.6	7	0	.0	1	-100
CLAY	4	4.1	2	9	8.7	8	110
CLOUD	6	6.0	5	5	4.6	2	-23
COFFEY	7	6.8	7	6	6.8	6	1
COMANCHE	2	9.1	10	0	.0	1	-100
COWLEY	25	5.4	3	26	6.2	5	16
CRAWFORD	24	5.1	3	42	7.6	7	50
DECATUR	1	3.3	1	0	.0	1	-100
DICKINSON	15	6.9	8	18	8.6	8	25
DONIPHAN	5	5.8	4	9	7.8	7	35
DOUGLAS	71	6.7	7	64	5.5	4	-18
EDWARDS	3	7.0	8	4	8.0	8	14
ELK	2	8.8	10	3	10.3	9	17
ELLIS	20	6.2	6	29	9.3	9	50
ELLSWORTH	4	7.1	8	6	10.0	9	41
FINNEY	49	5.8	4	62	6.8	6	17
FORD	40	6.8	7	51	7.8	7	15
FRANKLIN	22	7.0	8	24	6.7	6	-3
GEARY	73	8.9	10	65	10.2	9	15
GOVE	3	7.7	9	1	2.7	2	-65
GRAHAM	1	4.0	1	3	11.5	9	188

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	9	6.4	6	18	10.9	9	70
GRAY	4	5.1	3	5	4.5	2	-11
GREELEY	1	3.4	1	4	17.4	10	416
GREENWOOD	6	7.5	9	4	4.8	3	-35
HAMILTON	1	5.1	3	8	21.1	10	315
HARPER	3	4.1	2	4	5.8	4	42
HARVEY	18	4.6	2	25	6.1	5	32
HASKELL	5	6.6	6	7	9.3	9	42
HODGEMAN	2	8.9	10	1	6.3	5	-30
JACKSON	8	4.7	2	9	5.7	4	22
JEFFERSON	13	6.6	6	12	5.5	4	-17
JEWELL	1	4.0	1	1	3.2	2	-18
JOHNSON	340	5.7	4	356	5.5	4	-2
KEARNY	5	7.0	8	1	1.6	1	-77
KINGMAN	7	6.8	8	4	4.5	2	-34
KIOWA	3	7.1	9	0	.0	1	-100
LABETTE	18	6.3	6	20	7.2	6	15
LANE	1	2.5	1	1	3.6	2	42
LEAVENWORTH	57	6.7	7	52	6.2	5	-7
LINCOLN	1	4.8	2	0	.0	1	-100
LINN	6	6.7	7	6	6.0	4	-10
LOGAN	1	3.7	1	1	3.2	2	-12
LYON	32	7.1	8	31	6.7	6	-5
MARION	6	4.4	2	11	7.3	6	65
MARSHALL	5	4.4	2	9	7.6	7	70
MCPHERSON	17	5.0	3	24	6.5	5	28
MEADE	4	6.4	6	3	4.7	3	-27
MIAMI	19	6.0	5	31	8.5	8	41
MITCHELL	4	6.0	5	1	1.6	1	-74
MONTGOMERY	30	6.7	7	32	7.0	6	4
MORRIS	4	5.3	3	8	11.6	9	120
MORTON	3	4.7	2	1	2.2	1	-53
NEMAHA	8	6.0	5	11	6.5	6	8
NEOSHO	12	6.2	5	16	8.1	8	32
NESS	3	6.9	8	3	7.7	7	12
NORTON	3	4.8	2	6	12.0	10	150
OSAGE	13	6.8	8	10	5.2	3	-23
OSBORNE	3	5.9	5	4	11.1	9	87
OTTAWA	6	8.6	10	8	13.1	10	52
PAWNEE	5	7.1	9	3	4.0	2	-44
PHILLIPS	2	2.6	1	2	3.6	2	37
POTTAWATOMIE	14	5.6	4	17	6.4	5	15
PRATT	7	6.0	5	7	6.4	5	8
RAWLINS	2	5.8	5	3	10.3	9	77
RENO	54	6.7	7	68	8.1	8	20
REPUBLIC	1	2.4	1	8	11.8	10	388
RICE	8	6.5	6	14	10.9	9	66
RILEY	53	5.6	4	56	6.2	5	11
ROOKS	5	8.1	10	3	5.0	3	-38
RUSH	2	5.5	4	0	.0	1	-100
RUSSELL	6	8.2	10	7	7.9	7	-5
SALINE	53	7.3	9	64	7.9	7	8
SCOTT	5	7.5	9	4	7.3	6	-3
SEDGWICK	513	7.2	9	576	7.7	7	8
SEWARD	27	6.1	5	28	5.8	4	-5
SHAWNEE	184	7.9	10	177	7.4	7	-6
SHERIDAN	1	4.8	2	3	14.3	10	200
SHERMAN	6	6.8	7	8	8.0	8	18
SMITH	2	4.7	2	2	5.3	4	11
STAFFORD	4	7.4	9	12	16.9	10	130
STANTON	2	4.8	3	3	7.9	7	63
STEVENS	5	6.0	5	5	6.3	5	3
SUMNER	20	6.2	6	17	5.0	3	-19
THOMAS	7	6.5	6	6	5.7	4	-12
TREGO	1	4.0	1	4	13.8	10	247
WABAUNSEE	4	5.4	3	1	1.5	1	-73
WALLACE	1	5.2	3	2	8.3	8	60
WASHINGTON	4	5.6	4	4	5.9	4	4
WICHITA	3	9.0	10	5	12.8	10	42
WILSON	7	5.8	4	9	6.8	6	18
WOODSON	2	7.2	9	1	2.4	2	-67
WYANDOTTE	246	9.0	10	226	8.3	8	-8
KANSAS	**2,468**	**6.6**		**2,683**	**7.0**		**4.5**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

HEAD START PARTICIPATION

Head Start, which began in 1965, is a national program that provides comprehensive developmental services for America's low-income, preschool children ages 3 to 5. The program also provides social services for their families. Diverse services are provided to meet the goals of four components: education, health, parent involvement and social services.[1] Since its inception, the program has served over 16,892,000 children. During the 1996-1997 operating period, 61 percent of Head Start families had annual incomes of less than $9000, and 77.7 percent had annual incomes of less than $12,000. During fiscal year 1997, about $3.9 million were allocated to provide services to the 793,809 children and their families who participated in the Head Start program.[2]

On August 5, 1998, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services Secretary Rochelle Chronister announced that $5 million in grants were awarded to 14 Head Start agencies in the state for an Early Head Start pilot program. This new program provides full-day care to 629 infants and toddlers in Kansas areas where there is a shortage of child care. At least 10 percent of children in each area's agency must have special needs, such as a physical, mental or emotional disability. With the awarded grants, Kansas became the first state in the nation to create a state-federal partnership to fund early childhood development through Early Head Start.[3]

When compared to its base years period, in 1998 Kansas showed an 11 percent increase in the available Head Start slots per 100 children ages 3 to 5 living in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. Among the most populous counties, Wyandotte and Shawnee showed significant improvement, while Sedgwick showed a noticeable decline of 14 percent. Other counties that showed a decline of greater than 10 percent include Brown, Jackson, Sheridan and Wabaunsee. Improvement of more than 30 percent was experienced in Dickinson, Geary, Rush, Saline and Trego counties. This past year, Ottawa and Anderson counties celebrated their first year in offering a Head Start program. Data related to the Early Head Start program recently implemented in Kansas is unavailable at this time.

[1] U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. (1999, November 4). ACF Press Room: Fact Sheet. Online: http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opa/facts/headst.htm

[2] U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. (1999, November 4). ACF Press Room: Head Start 1998 Fact Sheet. Online: hhttp://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/opa/facts/hsfacts98.htm

[3] Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. (1999, November 10). SRS Press Release - August 5, 1998. Online: http://www.state.ks.us/public/srs/SRSPress/85a98.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	48	63	4	50	70	4	12
ANDERSON	0	0	10	20	43	7	*
ATCHISON	54	42	7	54	44	7	4
BARBER	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
BARTON	54	32	8	54	34	7	7
BOURBON	48	41	7	50	44	7	8
BROWN	47	61	5	34	45	7	-27
BUTLER	100	60	5	110	65	5	9
CHASE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CHAUTAUQUA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CHEROKEE	110	54	6	110	56	6	4
CHEYENNE	17	114	1	17	118	1	3
CLARK	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CLAY	60	122	1	60	131	1	8
CLOUD	42	88	2	45	104	2	18
COFFEY	20	114	1	20	116	1	2
COMANCHE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
COWLEY	85	57	5	85	60	5	6
CRAWFORD	107	46	7	107	49	6	8
DECATUR	17	121	1	17	127	1	5
DICKINSON	60	62	4	75	83	3	33
DONIPHAN	40	88	2	40	92	3	5
DOUGLAS	78	27	8	78	27	8	-1
EDWARDS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ELK	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ELLIS	88	67	4	86	68	5	1
ELLSWORTH	15	83	3	15	89	3	8
FINNEY	154	81	3	167	84	3	4
FORD	186	111	2	216	130	1	17
FRANKLIN	20	22	8	20	23	8	2
GEARY	212	75	3	239	98	2	32
GOVE	17	119	1	17	126	1	6
GRAHAM	17	66	4	17	74	4	12

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	52	111	2	52	107	2	-4
GRAY	15	48	6	15	52	6	8
GREELEY	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
GREENWOOD	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HAMILTON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HARPER	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HARVEY	49	59	5	49	60	5	3
HASKELL	10	100	2	10	97	2	-4
HODGEMAN	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
JACKSON	46	89	2	40	77	4	-13
JEFFERSON	34	57	5	34	57	6	0
JEWEL	18	171	1	18	183	1	7
JOHNSON	229	49	6	233	49	7	0
KEARNY	15	50	6	15	51	6	1
KINGMAN	33	82	3	33	83	3	2
KIOWA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LABETTE	90	72	4	90	77	4	6
LANE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LEAVENWORTH	92	41	7	92	42	7	3
LINCOLN	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LINN	10	29	8	10	29	8	0
LOGAN	17	138	1	17	145	1	5
LYON	80	47	7	80	50	6	6
MARION	45	92	2	45	94	2	2
MARSHALL	20	38	7	20	41	7	8
MCPHERSON	60	64	4	60	66	5	3
MEADE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MIAMI	40	48	6	40	49	7	1
MITCHELL	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MONTGOMERY	136	51	6	136	54	6	6
MORRIS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MORTON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
NEMAHA	37	73	4	36	79	4	7
NEOSHO	48	56	6	48	59	6	5
NESS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
NORTON	27	87	2	27	88	3	2
OSAGE	20	30	8	20	29	8	0
OSBORNE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
OTTAWA	0	0	10	15	88	3	*

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	18	85	3	18	93	2	9
PHILLIPS	20	98	2	20	100	2	2
POTTAWATOMIE	37	56	5	37	57	6	1
PRATT	30	83	3	30	84	3	2
RAWLINS	17	131	1	17	138	1	5
RENO	144	49	6	167	60	5	21
REPUBLIC	17	69	4	17	75	4	8
RICE	18	23	8	18	24	8	8
RILEY	150	43	7	150	47	7	11
ROOKS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
RUSH	7	42	7	10	70	4	67
RUSSELL	15	46	7	15	49	7	6
SALINE	139	51	6	172	66	5	31
SCOTT	12	277	1	12	300	1	8
SEDGWICK	827	34	7	714	29	8	-14
SEWARD	70	34	7	70	33	8	-3
SHAWNEE	437	66	4	506	79	4	20
SHERIDAN	12	57	5	6	34	8	-41
SHERMAN	32	68	4	34	79	4	16
SMITH	18	82	3	18	89	3	8
STAFFORD	30	112	1	30	115	2	3
STANTON	10	55	6	10	53	6	-3
STEVENS	10	32	8	10	33	8	2
SUMNER	75	109	2	75	112	2	3
THOMAS	30	57	5	33	70	4	23
TREGO	5	76	3	6	100	2	33
WABAUNSEE	19	81	3	15	69	4	-16
WALLACE	17	104	2	17	106	2	2
WASHINGTON	15	80	3	15	88	3	9
WICHITA	6	61	5	6	64	5	5
WILSON	40	64	4	40	68	5	7
WOODSON	10	51	6	10	54	6	7
WYANDOTTE	803	59	5	854	65	5	10
KANSAS	**6,009**	**49**		**6,190**	**54**		**11**

Head Start data are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Poverty estimates are created from U.S. Census estimates. Population data are estimated by the U. S. Census. Positive percentage changes indicate improvement.

An * indicates the Head Start Program is new for this county in 1999 and calculation of percent change from base years is not possible.

CHILD CARE AVAILABILITY

Child care availability refers to the capacity of registered day care homes, licensed day care homes, group day care homes, child care centers, and preschools per 100 children under age 13. For many working parents, one of the most pressing family issues is the affordability and availability of consistent, dependable child care.[1] The demand for child care continues to grow, especially for unmarried mothers. Over this past year, the labor force participation rate for unmarried mothers with children less than 1 year old increased by 5.2 percentage points. Since 1996, their participation rate has increased 9.7 percentage points and 13.1 percentage points since 1994.[2]

As of June 1999, the total Kansas child care capacity was 127,411 slots, or 27 child care slots per 100 children. This child care rate represents a 3 percent increase, compared to the previous five-year period. The greatest improvement can be seen in Rawlins County, with a 104 percent increase. Significant increases of 30 percent or better can also be seen in Doniphan, Morton, Ness and Smith counties. Hamilton County showed the largest decline in child care rate, with a 37 percent decline. Of concern, declines were experienced in 41 other counties.

[1] Scarr, S., Phillips, D., and McCartney, K. (1989). Working mothers and their families. American Psychologist, 44(11),1402-1409.

[2] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1999, November 9). Employment characteristics of families in 1998. Online: http://www.bls.gov/news.release/famee.nws.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	JUNE 1999 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	JUNE 1999 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	JUNE 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	709	26	4	672	26	4	1
ANDERSON	169	12	10	190	14	10	15
ATCHISON	605	20	8	685	23	6	16
BARBER	207	20	7	207	21	7	7
BARTON	1,309	24	5	1,273	25	5	. 2
BOURBON	542	20	7	612	23	6	15
BROWN	570	27	3	520	25	5	-6
BUTLER	2,328	20	7	2,046	17	9	-14
CHASE	108	21	6	120	26	5	20
CHAUTAUQUA	73	11	10	70	11	10	1
CHEROKEE	739	19	8	754	20	8	5
CHEYENNE	121	23	5	114	23	6	0
CLARK	112	27	3	136	33	2	20
CLAY	514	32	2	478	32	2	-2
CLOUD	623	38	1	526	35	1	-9
COFFEY	424	26	4	404	26	4	-3
COMANCHE	98	28	3	99	32	2	11
COWLEY	1,353	20	7	1,333	21	8	3
CRAWFORD	1,309	23	6	1,326	24	5	7
DECATUR	171	27	4	168	27	4	2
DICKINSON	1,140	33	2	1,161	35	1	7
DONIPHAN	240	18	9	306	23	6	31
DOUGLAS	4,294	32	2	4,320	31	2	-1
EDWARDS	122	21	7	134	24	6	14
ELK	36	8	10	46	10	10	29
ELLIS	1,563	33	1	1,430	31	3	-7
ELLSWORTH	262	27	4	303	34	2	24
FINNEY	1,487	16	9	1,655	17	9	7
FORD	1,580	25	4	1,426	23	6	-9
FRANKLIN	1,156	25	5	1,070	23	6	-7
GEARY	1,342	22	6	1,312	26	4	17
GOVE	116	21	7	116	21	7	4
GRAHAM	164	28	3	153	28	3	0

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	JUNE 1999 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	JUNE 1999 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	JUNE 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	377	19	8	317	16	10	-19
GRAY	264	22	6	326	28	4	28
GREELEY	85	21	6	82	21	7	1
GREENWOOD	234	18	8	241	20	8	7
HAMILTON	104	25	4	62	16	9	-37
HARPER	308	27	3	278	26	4	-5
HARVEY	1,658	29	2	1,644	29	3	0
HASKELL	166	18	8	198	21	7	16
HODGEMAN	62	14	10	68	16	9	16
JACKSON	639	28	3	531	23	6	-15
JEFFERSON	803	24	5	776	23	6	-6
JEWELL	90	14	10	83	14	10	-2
JOHNSON	27,763	36	1	27,202	34	2	-6
KEARNY	172	17	9	132	14	10	-22
KINGMAN	221	14	10	276	18	9	27
KIOWA	207	35	1	144	28	3	-21
LABETTE	1,087	26	4	960	24	5	-8
LANE	105	24	5	78	20	8	-17
LEAVENWORTH	2,076	16	9	2,293	18	9	12
LINCOLN	141	27	4	164	34	2	25
LINN	194	13	10	252	16	9	29
LOGAN	122	22	6	139	27	4	21
LYON	1,379	21	7	1,334	21	7	1
MARION	565	27	4	542	26	4	-1
MARSHALL	287	14	10	263	13	10	-3
MCPHERSON	1,208	23	5	1,154	23	7	-3
MEADE	154	19	8	136	17	9	-10
MIAMI	1,115	23	6	1,423	29	3	26
MITCHELL	374	31	2	346	31	3	-2
MONTGOMERY	1,499	23	6	1,413	22	7	-1
MORRIS	202	19	8	212	21	7	13
MORTON	158	23	6	218	31	3	36
NEMAHA	520	25	4	521	27	4	8
NEOSHO	983	33	2	823	28	3	-14
NESS	92	14	10	128	21	8	50
NORTON	263	31	2	256	31	2	0
OSAGE	870	28	3	797	25	5	-10
OSBORNE	187	25	5	162	24	5	-3
OTTAWA	284	28	3	252	25	5	-9
PAWNEE	448	37	1	377	34	1	-7
PHILLIPS	304	29	2	317	34	2	15
POTTAWATOMI	842	23	6	842	23	6	-1
PRATT	460	27	4	419	26	5	-5
RAWLINS	96	16	9	184	32	2	104
RENO	2,741	25	5	2,806	26	4	5
REPUBLIC	270	29	3	307	35	1	21
RICE	336	18	9	271	15	10	-15
RILEY	2,199	20	7	2,052	21	7	-3
ROOKS	315	30	2	314	32	2	9
RUSH	174	32	2	168	34	1	7
RUSSELL	352	29	2	347	30	3	4
SALINE	3,411	36	1	3,401	37	1	3
SCOTT	334	34	1	350	38	1	11
SEDGWICK	21,123	24	5	22,469	25	5	5
SEWARD	839	18	9	684	14	10	-21
SHAWNEE	10,695	36	1	10,224	35	1	-2
SHERIDAN	107	20	7	84	17	9	-19
SHERMAN	296	23	5	308	26	4	12
SMITH	196	28	3	232	37	1	30
STAFFORD	186	20	7	193	22	7	10
STANTON	106	19	8	111	19	8	1
STEVENS	178	15	9	207	18	8	15
SUMNER	1,041	20	8	954	18	8	-8
THOMAS	555	34	1	444	30	3	-14
TREGO	116	19	8	104	19	8	-1
WABAUNSEE	229	18	9	223	18	9	-2
WALLACE	64	18	9	73	20	8	15
WASHINGTON	397	37	1	348	35	1	-5
WICHITA	95	15	9	106	18	9	16
WILSON	369	21	6	397	24	6	13
WOODSON	56	9	10	56	9	10	5
WYANDOTTE	6,370	21	7	6,648	22	7	8
KANSAS	**127,904**	**26**		**127,411**	**27**		**3**

Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Child care capacity includes the number of Registered Day Care Homes, Licensed Day Care Homes, Group Day Care Homes, Child Care Centers, and Preschools as of June, 1994 through 1998 for base years and current year June 1999. Population data represent the number of children under age 13 and estimated from the the U.S. Census.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

According to a recent report from the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2.8 million youth graduated from high school in 1998. Nearly two-thirds of these graduates (1.8 million) were enrolled in colleges or universities in the fall. The enrollment rate of young women was higher than that of young men, 69.1 percent and 62.4 percent respectively. Approximately four out of five recent high school graduates who chose not to enroll in school were considered labor force participants. (Labor force participants are individuals who are either employed or unemployed.) For these youth, the unemployment rate was higher (18.4 percent) than their peers enrolled in college part time (13.2 percent) or full time (10.3 percent).[1]

Generally speaking, the higher one's level of educational attainment, the greater one's marketability and likelihood to earn a higher income. In 1998, females working full time with a high school diploma and no college education had median weekly earnings ($396) that were 56 percent of those of female college graduates ($707). Males with merely a high school education had median weekly earnings ($559) about 60 percent of those of males who were college graduates ($939).[2] A recent report released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services revealed a correlation between education and health. Higher levels of education increased the likelihood of a person being in good health. These individuals also have a lower prevalence of health risk factors, such as cigarette smoking and sedentary life style.[3]

In Kansas, data related to high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training are obtained from the annual survey of graduates conducted by the school districts five to six months after graduation. The data is primarily reflective of seniors' responses to a questionnaire given prior to graduation. Among the more populous counties, where the graduating classes tend to be larger, the data submitted by the school districts may not be as accurate as data from smaller counties. In the larger counties, school district personnel are less likely to be able to successfully follow up with the entire graduating class to confirm whether or not they actually followed through on their questionnaire responses.

Based on the data provided by school districts, in 1998 Kansas saw a 1-percent decline in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, when compared to the base years period. Forty-one Kansas counties experienced a decline. Significant declines in Douglas, Jackson and Linn counties translated to 60 percent or less of their graduating classes pursuing post-secondary education or training. Among the most populous counties, Johnson and Shawnee had a 5 percent and 11 percent decline, respectively, while Sedgwick and Wyandotte celebrated a 2 percent and 15 percent increase. With 97 percent of their high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, Clark and Osborne counties are applauded for achieving the highest rate in Kansas. Other counties recognized for achieving a 90 percent rate or better include Cheyenne, Decatur, Greeley, Hamilton, Ness, Sheridan, Stanton, Wichita and Woodson.

[1] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1999, September 1). College enrollment and work activity of 1998 high school graduates. Online: http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/hsgec.nws.htm.

[2] U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1999, September 1). Highlights of women's earnings. Online: http://stats.bls.gov/cpswom98.htm

[3] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (1999, September 1). Health in America tied to income and education. Online: http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/releases/98news/98news/huspr98.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	131	78	6	139	79	5	2
ANDERSON	64	76	7	57	62	10	-18
ATCHISON	113	75	8	123	78	6	4
BARBER	57	81	4	53	71	9	-13
BARTON	266	80	4	268	80	4	-1
BOURBON	134	82	4	139	72	8	-12
BROWN	97	78	7	106	79	5	1
BUTLER	586	81	4	577	76	7	-6
CHASE	25	74	8	24	75	7	2
CHAUTAUQUA	27	73	8	30	68	9	-7
CHEROKEE	138	57	10	164	68	10	19
CHEYENNE	42	90	1	42	91	1	2
CLARK	30	90	1	36	97	1	8
CLAY	91	78	6	110	85	3	10
CLOUD	89	79	5	89	72	8	-9
COFFEY	97	75	8	107	71	9	-5
COMANCHE	26	83	3	32	89	2	7
COWLEY	298	76	7	344	76	6	0
CRAWFORD	259	73	8	284	72	8	-1
DECATUR	40	81	4	39	91	1	12
DICKINSON	194	70	9	201	75	7	6
DONIPHAN	76	69	10	106	75	7	8
DOUGLAS	470	70	10	389	56	10	-20
EDWARDS	38	86	2	32	84	3	-2
ELK	36	70	9	42	71	9	1
ELLIS	212	78	6	226	83	3	7
ELLSWORTH	69	70	9	81	72	8	3
FINNEY	267	78	6	290	82	4	6
FORD	235	80	5	244	72	8	-10
FRANKLIN	188	70	9	189	70	9	0
GEARY	147	58	10	161	73	7	27
GOVE	44	84	2	54	87	2	3
GRAHAM	36	82	3	42	82	4	0

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	70	80	4	80	84	3	5
GRAY	65	85	2	66	83	4	-3
GREELEY	19	87	1	22	92	1	5
GREENWOOD	66	75	7	56	62	10	-18
HAMILTON	23	85	2	29	91	1	7
HARPER	66	77	7	63	71	9	-8
HARVEY	277	78	6	301	78	6	0
HASKELL	46	85	2	53	85	2	0
HODGEMAN	23	86	1	38	86	2	0
JACKSON	104	71	9	91	60	10	-15
JEFFERSON	174	68	10	251	75	7	11
JEWELL	39	82	3	61	87	2	6
JOHNSON	3,241	83	3	3,422	79	5	-5
KEARNY	51	73	8	49	72	8	-2
KINGMAN	90	84	3	76	76	6	-9
KIOWA	39	82	4	40	77	6	-6
LABETTE	219	80	5	228	76	6	-4
LANE	32	85	2	38	84	3	0
LEAVENWORTH	469	72	9	534	73	7	2
LINCOLN	37	76	7	44	83	4	9
LINN	87	67	10	81	57	10	-15
LOGAN	45	84	3	43	72	8	-15
LYON	252	71	9	256	68	10	-5
MARION	120	79	5	122	69	9	-13
MARSHALL	142	79	5	157	80	5	1
MCPHERSON	251	78	6	308	79	5	0
MEADE	32	78	6	29	78	5	0
MIAMI	187	76	7	199	69	9	-9
MITCHELL	77	79	5	84	85	3	7
MONTGOMERY	265	72	9	287	73	8	0
MORRIS	52	73	8	64	76	6	4
MORTON	40	76	7	36	80	4	6
NEMAHA	113	79	5	114	78	5	-1
NEOSHO	151	78	6	172	84	3	7
NESS	51	86	1	65	90	1	5
NORTON	59	81	4	77	77	6	-4
OSAGE	133	65	10	157	69	9	7
OSBORNE	27	86	2	30	97	1	13

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1992-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	62	79	5	75	80	4	2
PAWNEE	71	78	6	79	76	7	-3
PHILLIPS	66	80	5	70	80	5	0
POTTAWATOMIE	169	72	9	227	76	7	6
PRATT	97	83	3	108	86	2	4
RAWLINS	37	86	2	32	78	6	-9
RENO	441	72	9	455	72	8	1
REPUBLIC	63	84	3	82	87	2	4
RICE	96	80	5	96	68	10	-15
RILEY	404	87	1	404	81	4	-8
ROOKS	75	82	4	76	87	2	7
RUSH	42	85	2	43	75	7	-11
RUSSELL	64	78	7	77	87	2	11
SALINE	367	74	8	381	76	6	2
SCOTT	59	87	1	78	83	4	-5
SEDGWICK	2,572	74	8	2,673	75	7	2
SEWARD	164	74	8	161	71	9	-3
SHAWNEE	1,028	69	10	986	62	10	-11
SHERIDAN	34	88	1	43	90	2	1
SHERMAN	57	76	7	53	73	8	-4
SMITH	57	91	1	54	84	3	-8
STAFFORD	58	84	2	64	78	6	-7
STANTON	27	83	3	22	92	1	10
STEVENS	61	82	4	63	83	4	2
SUMNER	210	69	10	232	71	9	2
THOMAS	92	87	1	99	80	4	-8
TREGO	39	80	4	45	85	3	6
WABAUNSEE	64	78	6	60	65	10	-18
WALLACE	23	85	2	33	85	3	0
WASHINGTON	97	83	3	125	88	2	6
WICHITA	33	78	6	36	92	1	18
WILSON	92	71	9	121	76	6	7
WOODSON	32	76	7	50	94	1	23
WYANDOTTE	927	68	10	1,087	78	5	15
KANSAS	**19,638**	**75.9**		**20,933**	**75.1**		**-1**

Data provided by the Kansas State Board of Education. Information is obtained from the annual survey of graduates conducted by the school districts 5-6 months after graduation. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE

Many mothers with less than a high school education know first-hand the importance of an academic education, through their own personal struggles. According to past research, high school dropouts are more likely to be unemployed than high school graduates; therefore, they are more likely to receive public assistance.[1] In 1992, high school dropouts were three times more likely to receive income from AFDC or public assistance income than high school graduates who did not pursue a college education.[2] Dropouts who successfully find work typically earn significantly less than those with a high school education or equivalent. In 1998, the full-time, median weekly earnings for women age 25 and older with less than a high school education ($283) were about 29 percent less than the median weekly earnings of women high school graduates with no college ($396), and 60 percent less than those of women college graduates ($707).[3] According to a comprehensive report provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Americans with low income or less education are less likely to enjoy good health, and they have a higher prevalence of health risk factors. These individuals are less likely to have health insurance coverage or receive preventive care and are more likely to report unmet health care needs.[4]

Many of the hardships a mother with less than a high school education faces affect her children as well. According to a report prepared by the National Center for Health Statistics, low birth weight and infant mortality rates are higher among children of less-educated mothers than those of more-educated mothers. Newborns of mothers with less than a high school education are about 50 percent more likely to be of low birth weight than newborns of mothers who finished college.[5]

In 1998, 18.1 percent of all Kansas births (6,931) were to mothers with less than a high school education. Counties with the largest percent of births to mothers with less than a high school education include Gray, Haskell, Ford, Grant and Finney, respectively. Seward also fits in this category; however, the county showed 6 percent improvement in its rate, while the other counties' rate worsened, when compared to the base years period. Johnson, Pottawatomie and Sheridan are three counties that maintained their rank in the best 10 percent during the base years period, as well as in 1998. Even a slight increase in the percent of Kansas births to mothers with less than a high school degree is of concern, since this means there is a greater percentage of children at risk of inadequate living and health conditions.

[1] U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1999, September 14). Dropout rates in the United States: 1996. Online: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs98/dropout/index.html

[2] U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. (1999, August, 24). Welfare recipiency, by educational attainment. Online: http://nces.ed.gov/pubsold/CoE95/32txt.html

[3] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1999, September 1). Highlights of women's earnings in 1998. Online: http://stats.bls.gov/cpswom98.htm

[4] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Center for Health Statistics. (1999, September 1). Health in America tied to income and education. Online: http://www.cdc.gov/nchswww/releases/98news/huspr98.htm

[5] Ibid.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	30	17	7	20	13	4	-23
ANDERSON	17	18	7	28	24	9	33
ATCHISON	33	16	6	28	12	4	-22
BARBER	7	14	4	5	10	2	-28
BARTON	92	24	9	105	27	9	15
BOURBON	36	20	8	30	16	6	-18
BROWN	22	16	6	26	19	7	17
BUTLER	88	12	4	100	13	4	3
CHASE	9	17	7	5	9	2	-45
CHAUTAUQUA	6	16	6	12	29	10	83
CHEROKEE	66	23	9	62	23	8	-3
CHEYENNE	3	13	4	1	3	1	-76
CLARK	2	5	1	3	14	5	175
CLAY	15	16	7	16	15	6	-6
CLOUD	11	10	2	15	14	5	44
COFFEY	16	15	5	11	13	4	-17
COMANCHE	2	11	3	3	12	3	4
COWLEY	99	21	8	78	19	7	-9
CRAWFORD	78	17	7	112	20	7	22
DECATUR	3	7	1	2	6	2	-2
DICKINSON	37	16	6	25	12	3	-26
DONIPHAN	17	20	8	15	13	4	-35
DOUGLAS	95	9	2	103	9	2	-2
EDWARDS	8	20	8	9	18	6	-10
ELK	6	20	8	6	21	8	4
ELLIS	17	5	1	39	13	4	164
ELLSWORTH	6	13	4	8	13	5	2
FINNEY	377	44	10	440	49	10	11
FORD	249	42	10	289	44	10	5
FRANKLIN	59	19	7	57	16	6	-17
GEARY	118	14	5	77	12	3	-16
GOVE	4	10	3	4	11	2	3
GRAHAM	3	10	3	4	15	6	48

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	64	41	10	78	47	10	15
GRAY	30	33	10	43	41	10	24
GREELEY	4	24	9	6	26	9	9
GREENWOOD	15	21	8	21	25	9	23
HAMILTON	6	15	6	11	29	9	89
HARPER	13	17	7	14	20	7	19
HARVEY	61	15	5	77	19	7	27
HASKELL	27	34	10	33	44	10	29
HODGEMAN	2	8	2	2	13	4	59
JACKSON	20	13	4	22	14	5	9
JEFFERSON	23	11	3	24	11	3	-3
JEWELL	3	8	2	4	13	4	62
JOHNSON	303	6	1	332	5	1	-9
KEARNY	25	36	10	17	27	9	-25
KINGMAN	15	14	4	15	17	6	23
KIOWA	7	18	7	6	15	5	-17
LABETTE	67	25	9	60	22	8	-12
LANE	2	6	1	2	7	2	20
LEAVENWORTH	104	13	4	118	14	5	10
LINCOLN	3	8	1	5	20	7	165
LINN	14	16	6	18	18	6	14
LOGAN	2	6	1	3	10	2	73
LYON	127	26	9	126	28	9	8
MARION	21	15	5	30	20	7	34
MARSHALL	15	14	4	13	11	3	-19
MCPHERSON	54	16	6	65	17	6	11
MEADE	15	24	9	13	20	8	-14
MIAMI	42	12	4	52	14	5	14
MITCHELL	7	10	2	7	11	3	15
MONTGOMERY	102	23	9	109	24	8	3
MORRIS	12	16	6	9	13	4	-20
MORTON	15	23	9	11	24	9	7
NEMAHA	7	5	1	17	10	2	100
NEOSHO	38	19	8	40	20	8	5
NESS	5	14	5	1	3	1	-82
NORTON	5	9	2	3	6	1	-30
OSAGE	24	12	3	21	11	3	-9
OSBORNE	5	12	4	6	17	6	35
OTTAWA	7	10	3	8	13	4	25
PAWNEE	13	16	6	16	21	8	34
PHILLIPS	7	13	4	3	5	1	-58
POTTAWATOMIE	18	6	1	17	6	1	6
PRATT	18	15	5	13	12	3	-20
RAWLINS	3	10	3	2	7	2	-33
RENO	170	21	8	153	18	7	-14
REPUBLIC	6	14	5	8	12	3	-19
RICE	19	15	5	19	15	5	-4
RILEY	69	8	2	54	6	1	-21
ROOKS	5	9	2	7	12	3	33
RUSH	3	10	3	5	17	6	70
RUSSELL	11	16	6	16	18	6	13
SALINE	128	17	7	160	20	7	15
SCOTT	16	25	9	11	20	7	-21
SEDGWICK	1,437	20	8	1,553	21	8	3
SEWARD	201	45	10	201	43	10	-6
SHAWNEE	426	18	7	442	19	7	2
SHERIDAN	1	7	1	0	0	1	-100
SHERMAN	15	19	7	26	26	9	37
SMITH	6	15	5	4	11	2	-29
STAFFORD	12	24	9	17	24	8	0
STANTON	12	30	10	11	29	9	-4
STEVENS	27	31	10	24	30	10	-4
SUMNER	52	16	6	55	16	6	4
THOMAS	12	11	3	14	13	5	22
TREGO	3	9	2	4	14	5	60
WABAUNSEE	5	8	2	3	4	1	-42
WALLACE	4	14	5	5	21	8	47
WASHINGTON	6	8	2	4	6	1	-23
WICHITA	9	24	9	15	38	10	57
WILSON	26	21	8	36	27	9	32
WOODSON	5	11	3	4	10	2	-17
WYANDOTTE	802	30	10	849	31	10	6
KANSAS	**6,487**	**17.9**		**6,931**	**18.1**		**1**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

STUDENTS GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL

For many individuals, high school graduation represents a significant transition from youth to adulthood. A high school education often serves as a criterion for further academic education and vocational training, as well as for securing better-paying jobs. Generally speaking, there is a disparity in earnings for those with and without a high school education. In 1998, female full-time workers age 25 and older with a high school diploma and no college education had 40 percent higher median weekly earnings ($396) than females with less than a high school education ($283). For males, there was a greater disparity. Median weekly earnings for those with a high school education and no further education ($559) were almost 46 percent higher than those of males with less than a high school degree ($383).[1]

In 1998, the Kansas high school graduation rate was 81 percent. Counties that celebrated a 100-percent rate include Gove, Osborne and Wallace. Forty-two percent of Kansas counties achieved a graduation rate of 90 percent or better. Counties with less than a 70 percent graduation rate include Finney, Geary, Seward and Wyandotte. Compared to their base years period, Norton, Scott and Sherman counties showed the most significant improvement. According to the national KIDS COUNT Data Book: 1999, in 1996 Kansas ranked sixth best among all states for its dropout rate. Among Kansas teenagers ages 16 to 19, 6 percent were considered dropouts. They were not enrolled in school, had not graduated from high school, or had not earned a GED or equivalent. Compared to the national average dropout rate of 10 percent, Kansas did significantly better. Exploring ways to further improve the state's dropout rate are encouraged.

[1] U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (1999, September 1). Highlights of women's earnings. Online: http://stats.bls.gov/cpswom98.htm

	BASE YEAR - 1997			CURRENT YEAR - 1998			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	GRADUATION PERCENT	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF GRADUATES	GRADUATION PERCENT	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	160	75	10	175	78	9	4
ANDERSON	93	88	6	92	88	6	0
ATCHISON	149	80	9	158	81	9	1
BARBER	79	96	2	75	93	4	-4
BARTON	345	81	9	336	76	10	-5
BOURBON	156	78	10	194	83	8	7
BROWN	136	88	5	135	95	2	8
BUTLER	777	87	6	764	83	8	-5
CHASE	37	80	9	32	80	9	0
CHAUTAUQUA	37	85	7	44	83	8	-2
CHEROKEE	237	78	9	241	80	9	3
CHEYENNE	49	94	3	46	96	2	2
CLARK	37	97	1	37	95	2	-3
CLAY	122	91	4	129	89	6	-3
CLOUD	110	91	4	123	89	5	-2
COFFEY	147	93	3	151	89	6	-5
COMANCHE	30	95	3	36	92	4	-3
COWLEY	384	82	8	451	77	9	-7
CRAWFORD	361	79	9	392	81	9	3
DECATUR	52	97	1	43	96	2	-2
DICKINSON	287	85	7	269	84	8	-1
DONIPHAN	104	89	5	141	89	5	0
DOUGLAS	711	83	8	696	82	8	0
EDWARDS	47	84	8	38	76	10	-9
ELK	50	85	7	59	88	6	3
ELLIS	277	91	4	271	87	7	-4
ELLSWORTH	105	96	2	112	95	2	-1
FINNEY	307	58	10	353	56	10	-4
FORD	312	71	10	341	73	10	3
FRANKLIN	289	86	7	270	87	7	1
GEARY	250	67	10	220	64	10	-4
GOVE	55	97	1	62	100	1	3
GRAHAM	43	90	4	51	93	4	3

COUNTY	BASE YEAR - 1997 AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	BASE YEAR - 1997 GRADUATION PERCENT	BASE YEAR - 1997 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF GRADUATES	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 GRADUATION PERCENT	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	93	81	9	95	86	7	6
GRAY	81	94	3	80	93	3	-1
GREELEY	21	95	2	24	92	4	-3
GREENWOOD	94	89	5	91	88	6	0
HAMILTON	32	98	1	32	97	1	-1
HARPER	76	84	7	89	85	7	0
HARVEY	355	82	8	386	84	8	2
HASKELL	48	87	6	62	94	3	8
HODGEMAN	28	96	2	44	98	1	1
JACKSON	159	89	5	152	94	3	7
JEFFERSON	285	87	6	336	89	5	3
JEWEL	52	97	1	70	96	2	-1
JOHNSON	4,056	88	5	4,337	88	6	0
KEARNY	73	82	8	68	85	7	3
KINGMAN	105	86	7	100	85	8	-2
KIOWA	42	93	3	52	96	1	3
LABETTE	273	81	8	300	85	7	5
LANE	39	97	1	45	92	4	-6
LEAVENWORTH	699	82	8	730	89	5	8
LINCOLN	42	93	3	53	90	5	-4
LINN	127	89	5	142	88	6	-1
LOGAN	48	95	3	60	94	3	-1
LYON	356	81	9	378	78	9	-3
MARION	161	88	6	178	94	3	8
MARSHALL	188	88	6	197	91	5	4
MCPHERSON	334	86	7	392	91	4	6
MEADE	43	88	6	37	90	5	3
MIAMI	244	81	8	290	85	7	5
MITCHELL	100	94	3	99	93	3	-1
MONTGOMERY	368	76	10	395	75	10	-1
MORRIS	73	92	4	84	87	7	-6
MORTON	48	81	9	45	83	8	3
NEMAHA	144	96	2	146	93	4	-3
NEOSHO	195	79	9	204	85	7	8
NESS	57	96	2	72	96	1	0
NORTON	63	87	6	100	98	1	13
OSAGE	210	89	5	226	89	6	-1
OSBORNE	27	92	4	31	100	1	9
OTTAWA	83	91	4	94	95	2	4
PAWNEE	91	85	7	104	86	7	1
PHILLIPS	86	96	2	88	96	2	0
POTTAWATOMIE	240	90	4	299	92	4	2
PRATT	117	87	6	125	83	8	-5
RAWLINS	56	97	1	41	95	2	-1
RENO	624	80	9	629	77	9	-4
REPUBLIC	78	91	4	94	93	3	2
RICE	128	89	5	141	89	5	0
RILEY	454	88	6	501	89	6	1
ROOKS	98	96	2	87	93	4	-4
RUSH	49	98	1	57	95	2	-3
RUSSELL	81	82	8	89	87	7	6
SALINE	489	78	9	500	78	9	0
SCOTT	69	86	7	94	94	3	10
SEDGWICK	3,402	69	10	3,548	72	10	4
SEWARD	243	77	10	226	66	10	-14
SHAWNEE	1,472	75	10	1,594	74	10	-1
SHERIDAN	38	99	1	48	92	4	-6
SHERMAN	74	88	6	73	96	1	10
SMITH	64	97	1	64	94	3	-3
STAFFORD	74	89	5	82	88	6	-1
STANTON	33	96	2	24	96	1	0
STEVENS	75	86	7	76	82	8	-5
SUMNER	302	91	4	329	88	6	-4
THOMAS	109	87	7	123	89	5	3
TREGO	52	95	2	53	95	3	-1
WABAUNSEE	96	94	3	93	89	5	-4
WALLACE	26	96	2	39	100	1	4
WASHINGTON	117	95	3	142	95	2	1
WICHITA	46	88	5	39	81	9	-8
WILSON	137	81	8	159	78	9	-3
WOODSON	44	90	4	53	91	4	2
WYANDOTTE	1,325	70	10	1,389	63	10	-10
KANSAS	**26,217**	**81**		**27,856**	**81**		**0**

Data are from Kansas State Board of Education. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates and dropouts from grades nine through 12. Positive percent changes indicate improvement. Migration into or out of the school district between ninth and 12th grade may account for a proportion of increases or decreases in some rates. Currently there are no statewide data available that would allow for an accurate determination of the influence of migration.

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

Out-of-home placements refer to those children and youth ages 18 and under in state custody and living outside the home. Foster care services are provided to those children and youth that the court determines are in need of care and whose parents are unable to meet their child's safety and care needs. Most children and youth in out-of-home placements have been abused or neglected and have significant developmental, physical and emotional needs which demand a wide array of services and care options. Living arrangements for these children range from staying with a relative to in-patient psychiatric care.[1]

In June 1999, out-of-home living arrangements were provided to 5,323 Kansas children and youth compared to 5,796 children in placement during the same time period in the previous year. Counties with the highest out-of-home placement rates included Elk, Crawford and Reno. When compared to the previous base years period, 53 percent of Kansas counties experienced a decline in their placement rates, which contributed to the 7.7 percent decline in the overall state rate. Among the more populous counties, Douglas, Finney and Wyandotte counties showed the most significant declines in out-of-home placement rates, with decreases of 31 to 51 percent. Sedgwick and Reno counties showed increases of 12 and 26 percent, respectively, in their rates.

[1] Child Welfare League of America. National Data Analysis System. (1999, November 30). State summary for Kansas. Online: http:ndas.cwla.org/StNotes.asp?PageMode=1&ID=17

	BASE YEARS - JUNE 1994 JUNE 1998			JUNE 1999			
COUNTY	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	62	14	10	45	11	9	-25
ANDERSON	13	6	6	11	5	6	-16
ATCHISON	50	10	9	40	8	8	-22
BARBER	9	6	6	15	10	9	68
BARTON	62	7	8	98	12	10	63
BOURBON	33	7	8	32	7	8	-2
BROWN	24	7	8	29	9	9	20
BUTLER	73	4	4	69	4	4	-10
CHASE	7	8	9	1	1	2	-84
CHATAUQUA	4	4	3	7	6	7	69
CHEROKEE	49	8	8	40	6	7	-18
CHEYENNE	2	3	2	1	1	2	-53
CLARK	0	1	1	0	0	1	-100
CLAY	11	4	4	7	3	4	-33
CLOUD	21	8	8	11	4	5	-45
COFFEY	6	3	2	8	3	4	25
COMANCHE	2	4	4	4	8	8	94
COWLEY	60	6	6	56	5	6	-5
CRAWFORD	125	13	10	141	15	10	16
DECATUR	4	4	3	4	4	5	15
DICKINSON	14	3	2	15	3	3	9
DONIPHAN	8	4	3	9	4	5	7
DOUGLAS	220	9	9	159	6	7	-31
EDWARDS	3	3	3	8	9	9	155
ELK	8	10	10	12	16	10	51
ELLIS	42	5	5	31	4	5	-27
ELLSWORTH	6	4	4	3	2	3	-49
FINNEY	162	12	10	87	6	7	-49
FORD	69	7	7	60	6	7	-14
FRANKLIN	57	8	8	90	12	10	54
GEARY	65	7	7	63	8	8	13
GOVE	2	2	2	5	6	6	129
GRAHAM	8	9	9	4	5	5	-48

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - JUNE 1994-JUNE 1997 NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	JUNE 1998 NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	14	5	5	3	1	1	-80
GRAY	3	2	1	5	3	3	57
GREELY	2	3	3	3	5	6	92
GREENWOOD	13	6	6	20	10	9	56
HAMILTON	4	7	7	0	0	1	-100
HARPER	9	5	6	7	4	5	-22
HARVEY	74	8	9	45	5	6	-41
HASKELL	2	1	1	1	1	1	-47
HODGEMAN	1	1	1	1	2	2	29
JACKSON	20	5	6	26	7	7	32
JEFFERSON	38	7	8	56	10	9	41
JEWELL	2	2	2	3	3	4	27
JOHNSON	243	2	2	232	2	2	-10
KEARNY	15	10	9	3	2	2	-80
KINGMAN	12	5	5	4	2	2	-68
KIOWA	7	7	7	8	9	9	33
LABETTE	52	8	8	54	8	8	6
LANE	2	3	2	2	3	4	20
LEAVENWORTH	109	5	6	96	5	6	-13
LINCOLN	6	7	7	0	0	1	-100
LINN	7	3	3	5	2	2	-31
LOGAN	4	5	5	7	8	8	66
LYON	65	6	6	84	8	8	33
MARION	15	5	4	17	5	6	12
MARSHALL	13	4	4	10	3	4	-20
MCPHERSON	35	4	4	22	3	3	-37
MEADE	5	4	4	3	2	3	-44
MIAMI	25	3	3	24	3	4	-9
MITCHELL	12	6	6	5	3	3	-56
MONTGOMERY	91	8	9	107	10	9	20
MORRIS	11	7	7	10	6	7	-7
MORTON	4	4	3	2	2	2	-52
NEMAHA	5	2	1	8	3	3	61
NEOSHO	43	9	9	48	10	9	11
NESS	2	2	2	4	4	5	113
NORTON	5	3	3	9	6	7	95
OSAGE	18	4	3	47	9	9	151
OSBORNE	3	2	2	2	2	2	-17
OTTAWA	12	7	8	9	6	6	-23
PAWNEE	21	10	10	21	11	10	8
PHILLIPS	8	5	5	8	5	6	10
POTTAWATOMIE	10	2	1	8	1	2	-26
PRATT	12	4	4	18	6	7	46
RAWLINS	2	2	1	0	0	1	-100
RENO	201	11	10	253	14	10	26
REPUBLIC	11	7	8	1	1	1	-90
RICE	31	11	10	24	9	8	-20
RILEY	77	4	4	66	4	4	-8
ROOKS	4	3	2	6	4	5	45
RUSH	1	1	1	0	0	1	-100
RUSSELL	12	6	7	5	3	3	-58
SALINE	105	7	7	91	6	7	-13
SCOTT	13	9	9	8	5	6	-39
SEDGWICK	1,266	10	9	1,476	11	10	12
SEWARD	52	7	7	38	5	6	-29
SHAWNEE	548	12	10	561	12	10	2
SHERIDAN	0	0	1	1	1	2	153
SHERMAN	12	6	6	5	3	3	-57
SMITH	6	6	6	4	4	4	-33
STAFFORD	10	7	7	10	7	8	1
STANTON	2	3	2	1	1	1	-56
STEVENS	9	5	5	5	3	3	-45
SUMNER	102	12	10	97	11	10	-7
THOMAS	13	5	5	11	4	5	-11
TREGO	5	5	5	9	10	9	101
WABAUNSEE	10	5	5	9	5	5	-13
WALLACE	3	4	4	2	3	4	-25
WASHINGTON	2	1	1	5	3	4	118
WICHITA	9	10	9	1	1	1	-89
WILSON	20	7	7	20	7	7	3
WOODSON	5	5	5	11	11	10	127
WYANDOTTE	809	17	10	391	8	8	-51
KANSAS	**5,674**	**7.4**		**5,323**	**6.9**		**-7.7**

Placement data are from SRS. Population data are estimated from the U.S. Census. An asterisk represents counties in which no children were placed out of the home for that year. Rates are calculated per 1,000 children age 18 and under.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATHS

Teen violent deaths refer to those deaths among youth ages 15 to 19 related to accidents, suicides and homicides. Comparing 1985 with 1996 teen violent death rates, the Kansas rate worsened 19 percent, while the national average rate improved almost 2 percent. In 1996, Kansas ranked 39th (1=highest/best rank, 51=lowest/worst rank) among all states.[1]

When compared to its base years period, Kansas showed 7.3 percent improvement in 1998. While Wyandotte and Sedgwick counties showed a 21 percent decline in their teen violent death rate, Johnson County showed a significant increase, mourning more teenage deaths than any other county. Caution is warranted in interpreting dramatic percent changes for less populated counties, such as Chautauqua, Haskell and Morris. An increase in the tragic loss of one youth from the base years period significantly affects these counties' percent change.

In 1998, there were 60 teen deaths attributed to motor vehicle accidents, which are the leading cause of death among this age group.[2] Two out of three teenagers who die as passengers are in vehicles with teenage drivers. Based on miles driven, teenager drivers are involved in three times as many fatal crashes as are all drivers. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, there are three factors that work together to make the teen years so deadly: inexperience, risk-taking behavior and immaturity, and greater risk exposure (driving at night with other teens in the vehicle).[3]

Firearms and explosives were linked to 43 Kansas teenage deaths in 1998. Sadly, there were 33 reported teenage deaths by suicide and 26 by homicide, all of which could have been prevented.[4] During their teenage years, many youths experience strong feelings of stress, confusion, self-doubt, pressure to succeed and financial uncertainty.[5] Further efforts to understand their fears and provide emotional support are necessary toward reducing the Kansas teen violent death rate.

	BASE YEARS - 1993-97			CURRENT YEAR - 1998			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	.4	34.6	2	0	+	+	+
ANDERSON	1.2	211.0	9	1	163.7	9	-22
ATCHISON	1.2	90.8	6	0	+	+	+
BARBER	.6	183.4	9	0	+	+	+
BARTON	1.4	70.9	5	1	49.0	7	-31
BOURBON	.6	48.1	3	3	226.4	9	371
BROWN	.6	79.1	6	0	+	+	+
BUTLER	2.6	58.8	4	0	.0	6	-100
CHASE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	.2	71.9	5	1	339.1	10	372
CHEROKEE	1.8	103.0	7	1	53.3	7	-48
CHEYENNE	1.0	535.3	10	0	+	+	+
CLARK	.2	137.4	8	0	+	+	+
CLAY	.2	34.9	2	1	165.3	9	374
CLOUD	.4	47.6	3	0	+	+	+
COFFEY	.6	92.9	7	0	+	+	+
COMANCHE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
COWLEY	1.8	66.0	5	2	69.0	7	5
CRAWFORD	1.4	49.7	3	1	33.8	6	-32
DECATUR	.4	227.8	10	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	.8	58.9	4	1	70.0	7	19
DONIPHAN	.8	107.9	7	0	+	+	+
DOUGLAS	3.6	38.5	2	4	40.0	6	4
EDWARDS	.4	198.2	9	2	949.6	10	379
ELK	.2	108.9	8	0	+	+	+
ELLIS	1.0	42.6	2	0	.0	6	-100
ELLSWORTH	.2	47.5	2	1	235.0	9	395
FINNEY	1.2	40.5	2	4	126.0	8	211
FORD	3.2	136.2	8	3	120.0	8	-12
FRANKLIN	1.2	72.3	5	1	55.4	7	-23
GEARY	2.8	130.6	8	2	99.3	8	-24
GOVE	.2	96.0	7	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	.0	+	+	1	475.5	10	*

[1] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (1999). KIDS COUNT Data Book 1999. Baltimore, MD.
[2] Data provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
[3] U.S. Dept of Transportation. (1999, October 12). Saving teenage lives. Online: http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/injury/newdriver/SaveTeens/sect1.html
[4] Data provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.
[5] American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. (1999, October 25). Mental health net-facts for families: Teen suicide. Online: http://mentalhelp.net/factsfam/suicide.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1993-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	.6	93.8	7	0	+	+	+
GRAY	.8	182.5	9	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	.2	198.0	9	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	.8	142.4	8	0	+	+	+
HAMILTON	.2	132.1	8	0	+	+	+
HARPER	1.0	254.5	10	0	+	+	+
HARVEY	2.2	99.4	7	1	42.0	6	-58
HASKELL	.2	61.2	4	1	284.5	10	365
HODGEMAN	.4	288.2	10	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	.8	90.2	6	1	104.7	8	16
JEFFERSON	.6	49.6	3	0	+	+	+
JEWEL	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
JOHNSON	8.6	32.0	2	25	83.7	8	162
KEARNY	.8	244.3	10	0	+	+	+
KINGMAN	1.2	200.5	9	1	157.6	9	-21
KIOWA	.2	70.9	5	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	1.2	64.5	4	1	51.1	7	-21
LANE	.0	+	+	1	666.7	10	*
LEAVENWORTH	2.2	46.9	2	1	19.8	6	-58
LINCOLN	.2	98.2	7	0	+	+	+
LINN	.4	64.0	4	1	145.7	9	128
LOGAN	.0	+	+	2	891.7	10	*
LYON	1.4	45.9	2	0	.0	6	-100
MARION	.6	73.8	5	1	115.6	8	57
MARSHALL	.4	62.8	4	1	148.8	9	137
MCPHERSON	1.6	92.8	6	1	54.0	7	-42
MEADE	.4	144.1	8	0	+	+	+
MIAMI	1.2	61.8	4	5	234.4	9	279
MITCHELL	.8	147.4	8	0	+	+	+
MONTGOMERY	1.8	62.9	4	1	33.5	6	-47
MORRIS	.2	50.2	3	1	237.6	10	374
MORTON	.6	221.4	10	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	.6	85.4	6	0	+	+	+
NEOSHO	.8	64.5	4	1	75.9	7	18
NESS	.2	103.1	7	0	+	+	+
NORTON	1.8	430.8	10	1	225.1	9	-48
OSAGE	1.2	102.7	7	2	156.1	9	52
OSBORNE	.6	225.9	10	0	+	+	+
OTTAWA	.2	57.1	3	0	+	+	+
PAWNEE	.4	70.8	5	0	+	+	+
PHILLIPS	.2	52.3	3	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	.8	60.0	4	0	.0	6	-100
PRATT	.6	78.7	6	1	123.1	8	56
RAWLINS	.4	194.9	9	0	+	+	+
RENO	3.4	74.0	5	2	40.9	6	-45
REPUBLIC	.2	56.5	3	0	+	+	+
RICE	1.0	164.0	9	1	155.4	9	-5
RILEY	1.4	19.6	1	4	55.2	7	182
ROOKS	.2	54.1	3	0	+	+	+
RUSH	.4	207.9	9	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	.8	175.6	9	0	+	+	+
SALINE	3.0	82.7	6	0	.0	6	-100
SCOTT	.6	152.0	8	1	242.2	10	59
SEDGWICK	25.6	85.3	6	22	67.5	7	-21
SEWARD	1.6	102.7	7	4	237.6	10	131
SHAWNEE	10.0	85.6	6	8	64.4	7	-25
SHERIDAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	.4	76.5	6	0	+	+	+
SMITH	.2	71.8	5	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	.2	64.1	4	0	+	+	+
STANTON	.2	122.7	8	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	.2	51.5	3	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	1.4	70.8	5	3	141.2	8	99
THOMAS	.2	25.7	2	0	+	+	+
TREGO	.0	+	+	1	463.2	10	*
WABAUNSEE	.2	42.1	2	0	+	+	+
WALLACE	.4	255.8	10	0	+	+	+
WASHINCTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WICHITA	.2	98.2	7	0	+	+	+
WILSON	1.6	218.3	10	1	128.7	8	-41
WOODSON	.2	78.8	6	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	18.0	153.0	9	15	121.5	8	-21
KANSAS	**143**	**75.6**		**142**	**70.0**		**-7.3**

Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The base years consist of the average of years 1993 through 1997. Teen violent death rates represent the number of violent deaths per 100,000 children age 15-19. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.
* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

REPORTED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The term "child abuse and neglect" means, at a minimum, any recent act or failure to act on the part of a parent or caretaker that results in death, serious physical or emotional harm, sexual abuse or exploitation, or an act or failure to act that presents an imminent risk of serious harm to a child under age 18.[1] Nationwide, only about one-third of reports of abuse or neglect are substantiated upon investigation; however, a much larger proportion of reports involves families who are in need of services to maintain the child safely in the home.

1998 saw a dramatic increase in reports of child abuse and neglect in Kansas from 34,172 in 1997 to 39,642 in 1998. The rate of reports of maltreatment per 1000 children in the population rose more than 29 percent in 1998 compared to the average for the previous three years.

Across the United States, the number of children reported for abuse and neglect and referred for investigation rose more than 16 percent between 1990 and 1996, the most recent year for which national data are available. The child population grew only 7.6 percent during these same years. While this increase is partially a result of better reporting, due to increased public awareness and improvements in data collection, most experts agree that there is actually an increase in abuse and neglect. [2]

In 1996, the Kansas maltreatment report rate was quite close to the national rate of around 46 reports per 1000 children in the population. The 1998 Kansas rate of 54.2 would represent a significant shift in our state's ranking if other states do not report similar dramatic increases; however, because of differences in state laws, definitions, and data collection processes, direct comparisons of state reporting totals must be made with caution. States use different definitions of abuse and neglect and apply different procedures and criteria for screening out and investigating reports.[3]

	BASE YEARS - 1995-97			CURRENT YEAR - 1998			
COUNTY	NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	140	33.6	6	272	67.2	8	100
ANDERSON	43	19.8	3	143	65.3	7	230
ATCHISON	108	22.4	4	183	37.6	4	68
BARBER	27	18.2	3	46	31.4	2	72
BARTON	268	33.7	6	696	89.2	10	164
BOURBON	96	23.3	4	374	90.8	10	289
BROWN	43	13.7	2	99	31.7	2	132
BUTLER	592	33.6	6	884	48.7	5	45
CHASE	16	20.9	3	39	52.4	5	151
CHAUTAUQUA	64	60.2	9	102	97.8	10	62
CHEROKEE	373	60.1	9	392	63.2	7	5
CHEYENNE	11	13.8	2	40	51.0	5	269
CLARK	9	14.6	2	21	33.1	3	127
CLAY	133	54.8	9	147	61.9	7	13
CLOUD	118	47.2	9	164	67.2	8	42
COFFEY	106	43.2	8	184	75.2	9	74
COMANCHE	12	23.3	4	20	40.6	4	74
COWLEY	561	54.5	9	923	90.8	10	67
CRAWFORD	719	80.4	10	752	85.9	9	7
DECATUR	31	33.5	6	28	31.3	2	-7
DICKINSON	248	46.5	8	277	52.7	6	13
DONIPHAN	35	16.6	3	49	22.9	1	38
DOUGLAS	1,036	48.8	9	1,151	52.8	6	8
EDWARDS	54	59.8	9	45	50.8	5	-15
ELK	45	61.1	10	94	127.2	10	108
ELLIS	200	27.5	4	406	55.5	6	102
ELLSWORTH	78	50.9	9	96	64.9	7	27
FINNEY	265	20.5	3	712	53.3	6	159
FORD	410	44.9	8	519	56.5	6	26
FRANKLIN	257	37.4	7	387	55.4	6	48
GEARY	637	76.9	10	601	81.1	9	5
GOVE	18	21.4	3	28	32.9	3	54
GRAHAM	23	25.9	4	37	43.6	4	69

[1] Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act , 1974, Sec.111.
[2] CWLA National Data Analysis System. Online: http://ndas.cwla.org
[3] CWLA National Data Analysis System. Online: http://ndas.cwla.org

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-97 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1998 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	45	15.9	2	99	34.1	3	115
GRAY	25	13.6	1	28	15.5	1	14
GREELEY	8	4.8	1	8	14.6	1	206
GREENWOOD	68	33.7	6	148	74.2	8	120
HAMILTON	29	15.6	2	16	26.2	1	68
HARPER	48	28.2	5	103	61.8	7	120
HARVEY	190	21.6	4	379	42.5	4	96
HASKELL	22	16.0	2	40	28.5	2	78
HODGEMAN	6	8.8	1	17	27.0	2	206
JACKSON	139	39.8	7	163	46.4	4	17
JEFFERSON	209	42.2	7	245	47.7	5	13
JEWEL	28	28.9	5	34	35.2	3	22
JOHNSON	2,163	19.1	3	3,017	25.5	1	34
KEARNY	36	16.4	2	36	24.4	1	49
KINGMAN	80	33.3	5	83	34.4	3	3
KIOWA	37	37.9	7	56	61.7	7	63
LABETTE	541	84.8	10	712	112.4	10	33
LANE	8	12.0	1	17	28.0	2	134
LEAVENWORTH	572	29.3	5	931	47.4	5	62
LINCOLN	21	25.0	4	40	49.3	5	97
LINN	93	39.2	7	137	56.5	6	44
LOGAN	12	14.1	2	48	58.2	7	313
LYON	318	32.0	5	981	100.4	10	213
MARION	110	34.3	6	211	66.0	7	92
MARSHALL	64	21.3	3	105	35.6	3	67
MCPHERSON	310	40.5	7	397	51.8	5	28
MEADE	26	20.9	3	36	29.1	2	39
MIAMI	335	45.0	8	403	52.8	6	17
MITCHELL	31	16.1	2	55	29.5	2	83
MONTGOMERY	690	68.2	10	765	76.7	9	13
MORRIS	98	60.3	10	132	83.5	9	38
MORTON	9	8.8	1	29	26.4	2	201
NEMAHA	62	20.2	3	95	32.1	2	59
NEOSHO	256	56.1	9	349	76.7	9	37
NESS	5	3.4	1	16	16.8	1	400
NORTON	61	45.2	8	98	72.9	8	61
OSAGE	255	54.1	9	190	39.0	4	-28
OSBORNE	39	34.9	6	61	56.9	7	63
OTTAWA	39	25.4	4	133	87.2	9	244
PAWNEE	54	28.0	4	148	80.5	9	187
PHILLIPS	49	31.2	5	85	56.4	6	81
POTTAWATOMIE	180	33.0	5	260	46.3	4	40
PRATT	87	32.9	5	182	69.5	8	112
RAWLINS	18	13.6	1	31	36.0	3	164
RENO	779	46.3	8	1,265	75.2	9	62
REPUBLIC	61	42.7	7	50	35.9	3	-16
RICE	169	60.9	10	199	72.8	8	20
RILEY	534	32.9	5	599	39.1	4	19
ROOKS	73	45.9	8	85	55.6	6	21
RUSH	30	36.1	6	57	72.5	8	101
RUSSELL	64	35.1	6	159	88.3	10	151
SALINE	611	42.9	8	1,330	94.0	10	119
SCOTT	39	26.0	4	102	68.8	8	164
SEDGWICK	5,874	46.8	9	6,011	46.7	4	0
SEWARD	283	42.3	7	384	55.9	6	32
SHAWNEE	3,071	68.7	10	3,983	89.1	10	30
SHERIDAN	26	32.8	5	22	27.6	2	-16
SHERMAN	65	34.1	6	157	85.4	9	150
SMITH	40	36.2	7	36	34.4	3	-5
STAFFORD	53	39.0	7	90	67.2	7	72
STANTON	12	9.8	1	13	16.3	1	65
STEVENS	21	12.0	1	39	22.2	1	84
SUMNER	361	44.9	8	407	50.0	5	11
THOMAS	92	36.8	7	123	50.8	5	38
TREGO	15	16.2	2	51	59.1	7	265
WABAUNSEE	83	44.1	8	20	10.6	1	-76
WALLACE	18	21.9	4	48	86.3	9	294
WASHINGTON	27	15.7	2	76	46.1	4	195
WICHITA	9	9.6	1	29	32.3	3	236
WILSON	209	75.4	10	190	69.5	8	-8
WOODSON	36	36.0	6	38	39.2	4	9
WYANDOTTE	3,487	76.7	10	3,049	67.5	8	-12
KANSAS	**30,262**	**41.8**		**39,642**	**54.2**		**29.6**

Rates are per 1,000 children under age 18. Abuse and neglect data are provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Negative percent change indicates improvement.

SUBSTANTIATED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Reports of child abuse and neglect are screened for investigation at the state and local level. The responsibility for the investigation of reports alleging a child to be abused, neglected or otherwise in need of care rests with the local office social workers (and with local law enforcement agencies). They are responsible for determining if the report is substantiated and whether there is a need for further action. The level of evidence used to substantiate a report in Kansas is "preponderance of evidence."[1]

In the 1999 Kansas Kids Count Data Book, which reported child abuse/neglect substantiation data for 1997, we noted that through some combination of practice and policy changes that had occurred in the state, the substantiation rate had dramatically increased. Due to these changes, we felt that a comparison with prior years substantiation data was inappropriate. In the 1999 book, we stated that the new data "provided a more accurate picture of the scope of abuse and neglect in our state and will provide a basis for tracking trends in future books."

Unfortunately, it has been discovered that data reported last year were inaccurate due to conversion of data into the new information system. We have been assured by SRS that the 1998 data provided in this book are accurate. Given the information system problems noted and the change in state policy and practice discussed in the previous report, it is not possible to draw comparisons with previous years. For this reason, we are again publishing single-year data only for child abuse/neglect substantiations. At this point, it is not possible to say whether substantiated cases of child abuse or neglect are increasing or decreasing in the state or at individual county levels. We wish to caution readers in the use of child abuse and neglect substantiation data for Kansas until it is established that the state has a consistent and reliable system for processing and reporting these data.

COUNTY	1998 NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIATED CASES	1998 SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK
ALLEN	54	13.3	8
ANDERSON	40	18.3	9
ATCHISON	9	1.8	2
BARBER	9	6.1	5
BARTON	34	4.4	4
BOURBON	116	28.2	10
BROWN	4	1.3	2
BUTLER	116	6.4	5
CHASE	9	12.1	8
CHAUTAUQUA	18	17.3	9
CHEROKEE	164	26.4	10
CHEYENNE	29	37.0	10
CLARK	1	1.6	2
CLAY	29	12.2	8
CLOUD	28	11.5	8
COFFEY	8	3.3	3
COMANCHE	1	2.0	2
COWLEY	155	15.3	9
CRAWFORD	164	18.7	10
DECATUR	0	.0	1
DICKINSON	72	13.7	9
DONIPHAN	3	1.4	2
DOUGLAS	271	12.4	8
EDWARDS	7	7.9	6
ELK	5	6.8	5
ELLIS	51	7.0	5
ELLSWORTH	20	13.5	9
FINNEY	44	3.3	3
FORD	65	7.1	6
FRANKLIN	41	5.9	5
GEARY	56	7.6	6
GOVE	8	9.4	7
GRAHAM	4	4.7	4

[1] CWLA National Data Analysis System, state notes. Online: http://ndas.cwla.org/StNotes.asp?PageMode=1&ID=17)

COUNTY	1998 NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIATED CASES	1998 SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK
GRANT	4	1.4	2
GRAY	0	.0	1
GREELEY	1	1.8	2
GREENWOOD	18	9.0	7
HAMILTON	0	.0	1
HARPER	14	8.4	6
HARVEY	74	8.3	6
HASKELL	3	2.1	3
HODGEMAN	0	.0	1
JACKSON	30	8.5	6
JEFFERSON	71	13.8	9
JEWEL	8	8.3	6
JOHNSON	437	3.7	4
KEARNY	6	4.1	4
KINGMAN	5	2.1	2
KIOWA	17	18.7	9
LABETTE	253	39.9	10
LANE	3	4.9	4
LEAVENWORTH	160	8.1	6
LINCOLN	7	8.6	7
LINN	24	9.9	7
LOGAN	11	13.3	8
LYON	56	5.7	4
MARION	36	11.3	7
MARSHALL	10	3.4	3
MCPHERSON	20	2.6	3
MEADE	1	.8	1
MIAMI	61	8.0	6
MITCHELL	4	2.1	3
MONTGOMERY	312	31.3	10
MORRIS	10	6.3	5
MORTON	1	.9	1
NEMAHA	21	7.1	6
NEOSHO	144	31.6	10
NESS	0	.0	1
NORTON	13	9.7	7
OSAGE	26	5.3	4
OSBORNE	5	4.7	4

COUNTY	1998 NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIATED CASES	1998 SUBSTANTIATED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	DECILE RANK
OTTAWA	33	21.6	10
PAWNEE	3	1.6	2
PHILLIPS	13	8.6	6
POTTAWATOMIE	66	11.7	8
PRATT	24	9.2	7
RAWLINS	3	3.5	3
RENO	176	10.5	7
REPUBLIC	8	5.7	5
RICE	10	3.7	4
RILEY	105	6.9	5
ROOKS	10	6.5	5
RUSH	4	5.1	4
RUSSELL	33	18.3	9
SALINE	190	13.4	8
SCOTT	16	10.8	7
SEDGWICK	1,212	9.4	7
SEWARD	20	2.9	3
SHAWNEE	546	12.2	8
SHERIDAN	1	1.3	1
SHERMAN	28	15.2	9
SMITH	2	1.9	2
STAFFORD	23	17.2	9
STANTON	2	2.5	3
STEVENS	0	.0	1
SUMNER	78	9.6	7
THOMAS	33	13.6	9
TREGO	6	7.0	5
WABAUNSEE	3	1.6	2
WALLACE	14	25.2	10
WASHINGTON	5	3.0	3
WICHITA	1	1.1	1
WILSON	56	20.5	10
WOODSON	5	5.2	4
WYANDOTTE	547	12.1	8
KANSAS	**6,790**	**9.3**	

Rates are per 1,000 children under age 18. Abuse and neglect data are provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

JUVENILE COURT FILINGS

This measure represents the number of court filings per 1,000 children under the age of 18. When looking at juvenile filing rates among different counties, it should be noted that the deviant behavior of a child or youth that leads to a juvenile court filing in one jurisdiction may not necessarily result in a court filing in a different jurisdiction. In actuality, a county's juvenile filing rate reflects a combination of its level of deviant behavior as well as the level of tolerance within the community.

This year, there were 17,581 Kansas juvenile court filings, which reflects a 2.2 percent increase in the filing rate when compared to the base years period. Counties with a juvenile court filing rate of 50 per 1,000 children or greater included Chase, Geary and Pratt. Among the most populous counties, Sedgwick had the lowest rate and was ranked among the best 20 percent of Kansas counties. According to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, in 1997 there were 26,927 reported arrests (data were unavailable for three police departments) of those under the age of 18. The six leading reasons for arrests include theft (6,678), runaway (3,785), simple assault/battery (3,010), burglary (2,022), narcotic drug violation (1,866), and liquor violation (1,858).[1] During that same year, there were 17,733 reported juvenile court filings, reflecting a rate of 24 per 1,000 children.[2]

Since 1993, when the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Act (KSGA)[3] took effect, the consequences of being found guilty of committing an illegal act as a juvenile have increased dramatically.[4] Under the KSGA, a person's juvenile court record can be used against him or her when determining an appropriate sentence for a crime the person later commits as an adult. While this may seem logical to some, it contradicts the purpose of the Kansas Juvenile Offender Code[5], which states that it is the purpose of juvenile courts to "help" juvenile offenders rather than punish them.[6] Furthermore, while the Code promises that juvenile acts will not be considered criminal or have criminal consequences, under the KSGA, juvenile offenses are considered to be part of a person's criminal history. The effect that the KSGA will have on future juvenile court proceedings is yet to be determined. It could have the impact of causing juvenile offenders to be less cooperative with authorities within the juvenile justice system, because they know that any admissions they may make, even while reaching out for help, may later be used against them.[7]

[1] Kansas Bureau of Investigation. (1999, November 28). 1997 by age arrests. Online: http://www.ink.org/public/kbi/1997arrests.html
[2] Kansas Action for Children, Inc. (1998). Kansas Kids Count Data Book: 1998. Topeka, KS.
[3] Kansas Statutes Annotated §§ 21-4701 to 4728
[4] William T. Setzer. (1999, November 28). The worst of both worlds: how Kansas sentencing guidelines have abandoned juveniles in the name of "justice", Washburn Law Journal, 35(2). Online: http://washburnlaw.edu/wlj/35-2/articles/stettxt.htm
[5] Kansas Statutes Annotated §38-1601
[6] Setzer, Ibid.
[7] Ibid.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 FILING RATE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF FILINGS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 FILING RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	117	28	9	152	38	9	37
ANDERSON	38	18	4	49	22	6	27
ATCHISON	119	25	7	168	34	8	39
BARBER	24	16	3	21	14	3	-8
BARTON	226	28	9	176	23	6	-19
BOURBON	94	23	7	128	31	8	35
BROWN	66	21	6	61	19	5	-8
BUTLER	308	18	5	329	18	4	0
CHASE	18	23	7	52	71	10	207
CHAUTAUQUA	27	25	8	22	21	5	-16
CHEROKEE	82	13	3	78	13	2	-5
CHEYENNE	5	7	1	14	18	4	167
CLARK	14	22	6	17	26	7	18
CLAY	38	16	3	25	11	2	-32
CLOUD	87	34	10	90	37	9	9
COFFEY	38	16	4	44	18	4	14
COMANCHE	11	21	6	11	23	6	11
COWLEY	297	29	9	315	31	8	9
CRAWFORD	244	27	8	222	26	7	-6
DECATUR	23	25	8	22	25	7	0
DICKINSON	158	30	9	89	17	3	-42
DONIPHAN	30	14	3	45	21	5	52
DOUGLAS	409	20	5	584	26	7	35
EDWARDS	14	16	4	16	18	4	14
ELK	22	30	9	22	30	8	-2
ELLIS	112	15	3	143	19	4	26
ELLSWORTH	66	43	10	57	39	10	-8
FINNEY	270	21	6	215	16	3	-25
FORD	395	44	10	364	40	10	-10
FRANKLIN	171	25	8	168	24	7	-5
GEARY	381	43	10	404	57	10	31
GOVE	6	7	1	15	18	3	146
GRAHAM	21	23	7	18	22	6	-7

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF FILINGS	FILING RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	53	19	5	70	24	6	24
GRAY	38	21	6	22	12	2	-42
GREELEY	1	3	1	1	2	1	-27
GREENWOOD	46	23	7	95	48	10	110
HAMILTON	7	11	2	9	15	3	39
HARPER	36	21	6	35	21	5	1
HARVEY	215	25	7	261	29	8	18
HASKELL	14	10	2	16	11	2	11
HODGEMAN	3	4	1	7	11	2	157
JACKSON	55	16	4	66	19	4	18
JEFFERSON	83	17	4	113	22	6	27
JEWELL	12	13	2	8	8	2	-34
JOHNSON	2,570	23	7	2,739	23	6	-2
KEARNY	40	27	9	54	36	9	33
KINGMAN	71	29	9	65	27	7	-8
KIOWA	23	23	7	14	16	3	-32
LABETTE	107	17	4	146	23	6	38
LANE	5	7	1	21	36	9	384
LEAVENWORTH	403	21	6	374	19	4	-8
LINCOLN	19	23	7	13	16	3	-28
LINN	58	25	8	72	29	8	19
LOGAN	16	19	5	15	18	4	-4
LYON	429	43	10	354	37	9	-15
MARION	52	16	4	75	23	6	44
MARSHALL	32	11	2	21	7	1	-31
MCPHERSON	79	10	2	143	19	4	79
MEADE	30	25	8	42	34	8	38
MIAMI	117	16	4	148	19	4	20
MITCHELL	33	17	4	32	17	3	2
MONTGOMERY	271	27	8	168	17	3	-36
MORRIS	32	20	5	71	46	10	134
MORTON	13	12	2	24	21	5	77
NEMAHA	22	7	1	55	19	4	170
NEOSHO	120	26	8	35	8	1	-71
NESS	7	7	1	4	4	1	-36
NORTON	39	29	9	44	33	8	13
OSAGE	72	15	3	109	22	6	43
OSBORNE	12	11	2	6	6	1	-46
OTTAWA	27	18	5	42	28	7	56
PAWNEE	62	31	9	53	30	8	-6
PHILLIPS	23	14	3	19	13	2	-10
POTTAWATOMIE	63	12	2	42	7	1	-37
PRATT	70	27	8	130	50	10	87
RAWLINS	14	16	4	6	7	1	-55
RENO	474	28	9	698	41	10	47
REPUBLIC	27	19	5	35	25	7	37
RICE	59	21	6	95	35	9	65
RILEY	172	10	2	206	14	2	31
ROOKS	24	15	3	31	21	5	38
RUSH	10	12	2	29	38	9	214
RUSSELL	45	24	7	69	39	9	58
SALINE	679	48	10	410	29	8	-39
SCOTT	31	20	6	41	28	7	39
SEDGWICK	1,650	13	3	1,415	11	2	-18
SEWARD	304	46	10	285	41	10	-11
SHAWNEE	1,089	24	7	1,101	25	7	1
SHERIDAN	1	1	1	0	0	1	-100
SHERMAN	68	35	10	86	48	10	35
SMITH	16	15	3	8	8	1	-47
STAFFORD	27	20	5	15	11	2	-43
STANTON	26	33	10	19	23	6	-30
STEVENS	34	20	6	35	20	5	-2
SUMNER	154	19	5	175	21	5	11
THOMAS	48	19	5	33	14	3	-28
TREGO	36	40	10	30	36	9	-10
WABAUNSEE	17	9	1	48	25	7	174
WALLACE	5	9	1	11	20	5	116
WASHINGTON	19	11	2	34	21	5	88
WICHITA	15	16	4	4	4	1	-72
WILSON	70	25	8	103	38	9	50
WOODSON	20	20	6	12	12	2	-39
WYANDOTTE	1,494	33	9	1,704	38	9	16
KANSAS	**16,041**	**22**		**17,581**	**23**		**2.2**

Data are from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. Juvenile court filing rates represent the number of court filings per 1,000 children under the age of 18. Negative change scores indicate improvement. Population data are estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

YOUTH WHO REPORT ALCOHOL USE IN PAST 30 DAYS

Perhaps no behavior has more severe consequences for our youth than the use of alcohol. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention reported that underage drinking costs our country over $58 billion each year. Drinking by youths is responsible for 6 1/2 times more deaths to young people than all other drugs combined.[1] Nationally, one in three seniors participating in a national survey indicated they had used alcohol to the point of intoxication in the past month.[2]

Statewide, our 1999 data indicated a sharp increase in the percentage of children who reported using alcohol in the past month. Over 50 percent of the respondents indicated that they had used alcohol in the past month, a 60 percent change from the base years rate of 34 percent. Such a dramatic increase in just a one-year time period may have been influenced by the nature of the participants. As we have noted in the past, shifts in patterns of survey participation by Kansas schools may influence the findings in either direction. For example, with a greater proportion of older students participating this year one would also expect an increase in the percentage of children reporting alcohol use, simply as a function of average age of our respondents. Nevertheless, any increase in this high-risk behavior should be viewed with concern.

[1] Justice Department and MADD Announce Expanded Battle Against Underage Drinking in America. July 12, 1999. Online: http://www.health.org/pressrel/july99/2.htm
[2] Monitoring the Future Press Release. December 18, 1998. Online: http://www.isr.umich.edu/src/mtf/pressrelease/mtfnat98.htm

Youth Who Report Using Alcohol in the Past 30 Days

	Base Years - 1995-98			Current Year - 1999			
	Average Number of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Percent of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Decile Rank	Number of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Percent of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Decile Rank	Percent Change
Allen	147	39	8	259	40	6	1
Anderson	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Atchison	189	36	7	264	44	8	24
Barber	46	37	8	.	.	.	.
Barton	480	33	4	211	29	1	-12
Bourbon	95	25	1	137	28	1	9
Brown	134	32	3	169	36	4	14
Butler	363	33	5	543	34	3	3
Chase	59	38	8	59	50	10	33
Chautauqua	.	.	.	37	28	1	.
Cherokee	173	28	2	287	43	7	57
Cheyenne	.	.	.	48	32	2	.
Clark	.	.	.	53	38	5	.
Clay	125	58	10	192	40	7	-31
Cloud	108	39	9	165	39	6	0
Coffey	113	34	5	207	39	6	16
Comanche	41	33	4	.	.	.	.
Cowley	204	33	5	527	38	4	14
Crawford	327	36	7	584	46	9	28
Decatur	54	31	3	.	.	.	.
Dickinson	175	32	3	298	33	2	2
Doniphan	.	.	.	115	36	3	.
Douglas	60	51	10	223	47	9	-9
Edwards	67	40	9	.	.	.	.
Elk	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ellis	197	44	10	.	.	.	.
Ellsworth	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Finney	357	30	3	504	37	4	22
Ford	298	34	6	450	41	7	20
Franklin	48	21	1	76	21	1	1
Geary	278	25	1	.	.	.	.
Gove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Graham	46	39	8	.	.	.	.
Grant	.	.	.	197	48	9	.
Gray	47	34	6	.	.	.	.
Greeley	.	.	.	54	50	10	.
Greenwood	84	33	4	115	40	7	21
Hamilton	39	36	7	.	.	.	.
Harper	83	36	7	145	45	8	26
Harvey	217	24	1	456	31	2	29
Haskell	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Hodgeman	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Youth Who Report Using Alcohol in the Past 30 Days

	Base Years - 1995-98			Current Year - 1999			
	Average Number of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Percent of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Decile Rank	Number of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Percent of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Decile Rank	Percent Change
Jackson	154	46	10	183	35	3	-24
Jefferson	67	37	8	68	56	10	51
Jewell	38	33	4	.	.	.	.
Johnson	256	34	6	3025	39	6	15
Kearny	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Kingman	135	42	9	158	46	9	10
Kiowa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Labette	293	39	9	176	43	7	8
Lane	34	33	5	.	.	.	.
Leavenworth	308	32	4	408	34	2	7
Lincoln	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Linn	61	33	5	79	45	8	34
Logan	50	36	7	59	36	4	2
Lyon	229	28	2	117	40	7	44
McPherson	49	24	1	88	30	2	29
Marion	99	24	1	130	27	1	10
Marshall	84	30	3	266	43	8	43
Meade	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Miami	228	35	6	262	46	9	30
Mitchell	97	39	8	.	.	.	.
Montgomery	294	33	4	543	39	5	18
Morris	98	33	4	112	36	3	10
Morton	72	51	10	74	57	10	11
Nemaha	184	34	6	210	38	4	11
Neosho	137	35	6	128	46	9	31
Ness	90	45	10	114	69	10	55
Norton	82	34	5	100	38	5	14
Osage	172	30	3	286	38	5	26
Osborne	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ottawa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pawnee	108	40	9	87	39	6	0
Phillips	39	26	1	45	30	1	16
Pottawatomie	157	35	7	81	43	8	22
Pratt	119	30	2	139	39	6	30
Rawlins	32	29	2	50	39	6	37
Reno	250	27	2	549	38	4	44
Republic	77	31	3	88	36	3	16
Rice	90	27	2	96	32	2	17
Riley	278	32	4	.	.	.	.
Rooks	84	49	10	118	53	10	8
Rush	57	44	9	38	38	4	-14
Russell	110	37	8	136	44	8	19

Youth Who Report Using Alcohol in the Past 30 Days

	Base Years - 1995-98			Current Year - 1999			
	Average Number of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Percent of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Decile Rank	Number of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Percent of Youth Reporting Recent Alcohol Use	Decile Rank	Percent Change
Saline	592	34	6	532	36	3	6
Scott	103	35	6	104	32	2	-8
Sedgwick	1329	35	6	2273	39	5	10
Seward	356	32	3	.	.	.	.
Shawnee	775	34	5	2322	39	5	16
Sheridan	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sherman	85	30	2	95	36	3	22
Smith	61	30	2	74	30	1	1
Stafford	54	23	1	.	.	.	.
Stanton	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Stevens	.	.	.	124	46	9	.
Sumner	246	36	7	247	45	8	25
Thomas	96	31	3	46	33	2	8
Trego	66	37	8	69	40	6	8
Wabaunsee	79	40	9	63	39	5	-3
Wallace	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Washington	46	37	8	111	42	7	13
Wichita	58	47	10	76	48	9	2
Wilson	84	34	5	181	42	7	25
Woodson	79	40	9	94	51	10	29
Wyandotte	994	36	7	2117	38	4	7
Kansas	**14,746**	**34**		**23,057**	**39**		**15**

Data report on the percentage of children who report any use of alcohol in the thirty days prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

YOUTH WHO REPORT BINGE DRINKING

This measure is the percentage of youth in sixth, eighth, 10th, and 12th grade who self-reported drinking five or more consecutive alcoholic beverages during one occasion. Of serious concern, this year there was a significant increase in the percent of students who indicated they had participated in binge drinking, when compared to the average for the base years period. Slightly more than 21 percent (12,706) of the survey participants reported binge drinking. Counties with the most noticeable percentage increases include Jefferson, Cherokee, Chase and Lyon. Each of these counties showed a 70 percent or greater increase in the percent of youth participating in this dangerous activity. Also troubling, 18 other counties showed percentage increases of 30 percent or greater. Clay, Jackson and Republic counties celebrated dramatic declines in their binge drinking rates.

Even though this dangerous activity is illegal for youth, many youth have reported drinking excessively. In 1997, results from a national high school-based Youth Risk Behavior Survey, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, revealed that 31 percent of the students were younger than 13 years old when they first drank alcohol (more than a few sips). Slightly more than 50 percent of the survey's participants reported having had a least one drink 30 days preceding the survey, and 33.4 percent reported having had five or more drinks of alcohol during the same time period.[1]

Concern for youth who participate in binge drinking extends beyond the fact that the activity is illegal. Youth who participate in excessive, episodic drinking are at risk of various alcohol-related behavior and health problems. These problems include getting into arguments, forgetting where one has been or what one has done, and getting injured or killed in an automobile accident. Heavily intoxicated youth are also at higher risk of engaging in unplanned, unprotected sex, which may have serious, long-term effects.[2] Sadly, many youth that participate in binge drinking do so with the specific intention of getting drunk.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	85	23	9	145	22	6	-3
ANDERSON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ATCHISON	98	18	5	152	25	8	38
BARBER	24	20	6	•	•	•	•
BARTON	274	19	6	126	17	3	-7
BOURBON	48	13	1	62	12	1	-4
BROWN	77	18	5	93	20	4	10
BUTLER	203	19	6	276	17	2	-7
CHASE	27	17	4	35	30	9	72
CHAUTAUQUA	•	•	•	19	15	1	•
CHEROKEE	92	15	2	183	28	9	88
CHEYENNE	•	•	•	32	21	5	•
CLARK	•	•	•	31	22	6	•
CLAY	78	36	10	121	25	8	-30
CLOUD	64	23	9	97	23	7	-1
COFFEY	56	17	4	128	24	7	45
COMANCHE	25	20	7	•	•	•	•
COWLEY	124	20	7	329	24	7	18
CRAWFORD	199	22	8	373	29	9	34
DECATUR	35	20	7	•	•	•	•
DICKINSON	87	16	3	142	16	2	-2
DONIPHAN	•	•	•	64	20	4	•
DOUGLAS	31	27	10	127	27	9	0
EDWARDS	38	23	9	•	•	•	•
ELK	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
ELLIS	104	23	9	•	•	•	•
ELLSWORTH	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
FINNEY	193	16	3	285	21	4	28
FORD	171	20	6	243	22	6	12
FRANKLIN	27	12	1	39	11	1	-6
GEARY	117	11	1	•	•	•	•
GOVE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
GRAHAM	32	27	10	•	•	•	•

[1] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (1999, November 9). 1997 Youth risk behavior surveillance summary. Online: http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dash/yrbs/natsum97/sual97.htm

[2] Wechsler, H. (1996). Alcohol and the American college campus: a report from the Harvard School of Public Health. Change, 28(4), 20-26.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 AVG NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	•	•	•	127	31	10	•
GRAY	24	18	4	•	•	•	•
GREELEY	•	•	•	32	30	10	•
GREENWOOD	49	19	6	66	23	6	20
HAMILTON	22	20	7	•	•	•	•
HARPER	47	20	7	77	24	7	20
HARVEY	106	12	1	240	16	2	40
HASKELL	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
HODGEMAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
JACKSON	88	27	10	85	16	2	-39
JEFFERSON	32	18	4	43	36	10	102
JEWELL	21	18	5	•	•	•	•
JOHNSON	136	18	5	1,521	20	4	9
KEARNY	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
KINGMAN	80	25	9	101	29	9	19
KIOWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LABETTE	163	22	8	91	22	5	0
LANE	16	16	3	•	•	•	•
LEAVENWORTH	161	17	4	221	19	3	10
LINCOLN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LINN	36	19	6	40	23	6	19
LOGAN	30	21	8	34	21	5	-2
LYON	127	15	3	77	27	9	72
MCPHERSON	24	11	1	46	16	2	38
MARION	51	13	1	74	15	1	21
MARSHALL	43	16	3	155	25	8	63
MEADE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
MIAMI	118	18	5	149	26	8	43
MITCHELL	56	22	9	•	•	•	•
MONTGOMERY	162	18	5	350	25	7	38
MORRIS	59	20	6	71	23	7	16
MORTON	42	30	10	47	36	10	20
NEMAHA	81	15	2	109	20	3	31
NEOSHO	76	19	6	70	25	8	29
NESS	51	25	10	70	42	10	69
NORTON	42	17	4	60	23	6	35
OSAGE	84	15	2	164	22	6	49
OSBORNE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
OTTAWA	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
PAWNEE	57	21	8	40	18	3	-14
PHILLIPS	23	15	2	26	17	2	16
POTTAWATOMIE	100	22	9	46	25	7	9
PRATT	66	17	3	82	23	7	39
RAWLINS	14	13	1	22	17	3	36
RENO	126	13	2	314	22	5	62
REPUBLIC	51	21	7	35	14	1	-30
RICE	48	14	2	60	20	4	38
RILEY	136	16	3	•	•	•	•
ROOKS	51	30	10	65	29	9	-2
RUSH	27	21	8	18	18	3	-15
RUSSELL	65	22	8	79	26	8	17
SALINE	323	19	5	262	18	3	-5
SCOTT	61	21	8	52	16	2	-22
SEDGWICK	704	19	5	1,227	21	5	12
SEWARD	188	17	4	•	•	•	•
SHAWNEE	407	18	4	1,241	21	4	18
SHERIDAN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
SHERMAN	43	15	2	41	16	2	5
SMITH	33	16	3	29	12	1	-25
STAFFORD	25	11	1	•	•	•	•
STANTON	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
STEVENS	•	•	•	84	31	10	•
SUMNER	138	20	7	160	29	9	44
THOMAS	49	16	3	28	20	4	29
TREGO	27	15	2	25	15	1	-3
WABAUNSEE	47	24	9	33	20	4	-15
WALLACE	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
WASHINGTON	27	22	8	70	26	8	22
WICHITA	32	26	10	34	22	5	-18
WILSON	53	22	8	95	22	6	3
WOODSON	41	21	7	59	32	10	56
WYANDOTTE	543	19	6	1,178	21	5	9
KANSAS	**7,995**	**17.9**		**12,706**	**21.2**		**16.8**

Binge drinking is defined as taking five or more consecutive drinks on one occasion. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

YOUTH WHO HAVE EVER USED DRUGS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL

After six years of increasing drug use by youth, the 1998 Monitoring the Future survey of our nation's high school youth found that illicit drug use has begun a moderate decline. The national survey indicated that close to half (49 percent) of all 12th graders had tried marijuana, and that the rate of any illicit drug use by 10th graders had declined to 35 percent in 1998.[1]

Both education and positive peer pressure can play a role in contributing to a further reduction in illicit drug use by young people. Among teenagers, both a child's perception of the risk associated with using an illicit drug and the extent to which their peers approve of substance use influence their likelihood to use drugs.[2]

Our data report on the lifetime use of any illicit drug. These data are from a survey of Kansas children in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 whose schools elected to participate in an annual survey. Our findings this year were consistent with recent national trends. Only 12 percent of the youth responding to this Kansas survey indicated that they had used a drug in the past month. This represents a 25 percent decline from the 16 percent rate noted for the previous four-year base data. Community leaders and all persons in a position to influence youth's decision-making should strive for even further reductions in teen drug use.

[1] Monitoring the Future Press Release. December 18, 1998. Online: http://www.isr.umich.edu/src/mtf/pressreleases/mtfnat98.htm
[2] Monitoring the Future Press Release. December 18, 1998. Online: http://www.isr.umich.edu/src/mtf/pressreleases/mtfnat98.htm

Youth Who Have Ever Used Drugs Other Than Alcohol

	Base Years 1995-98			Current Year - 1999			
	Average Number Reporting Other Drug Use	Percent Reporting Other Drug Use	Decile Rank	Number Reporting Other Drug Use	Percent Reporting Other Drug Use	Decile Rank	Percent Change
Allen	49	13	6	90	14	9	5
Anderson	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Atchison	56	11	4	50	8	6	-21
Barber	11	8	3	.	.	.	.
Barton	189	13	6	51	7	4	-46
Bourbon	30	8	3	21	4	2	-46
Brown	46	11	5	42	9	6	-18
Butler	170	16	8	174	11	7	-30
Chase	22	14	7	10	9	6	-38
Chautauqua	7	14	6	5	4	2	-71
Cherokee	97	15	8	94	14	9	-9
Cheyenne	5	6	2	5	3	1	-47
Clark	.	.	.	3	2	1	.
Clay	50	23	10	65	14	9	-42
Cloud	33	12	5	31	7	4	-39
Coffey	36	11	5	42	8	5	-26
Comanche	5	4	1	.	.	.	.
Cowley	87	14	7	200	14	9	2
Crawford	168	19	9	206	16	10	-12
Decatur	18	10	4	.	.	.	.
Dickinson	56	10	4	68	7	4	-27
Doniphan	.	.	.	17	5	3	.
Douglas	43	37	10	57	12	8	-67
Edwards	16	10	3	.	.	.	.
Elk	5	8	3	.	.	.	.
Ellis	51	11	5	.	.	.	.
Ellsworth	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Finney	214	18	9	154	11	8	-38
Ford	155	18	9	96	9	6	-51
Franklin	16	7	2	18	5	3	-27
Geary	158	14	7	.	.	.	.
Gove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Graham	9	8	2	.	.	.	.
Grant	.	.	.	64	16	10	.
Gray	8	6	2	.	.	.	.
Greeley	9	10	4	11	11	7	6
Greenwood	33	13	6	12	4	2	-68
Hamilton	11	10	4	.	.	.	.
Harper	32	14	7	31	10	7	-31
Harvey	155	17	9	180	12	8	-28
Haskell	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Youth Who Have Ever Used Drugs Other Than Alcohol

	Base Years 1995-98			Current Year - 1999			
	Average Number Reporting Other Drug Use	Percent Reporting Other Drug Use	Decile Rank	Number Reporting Other Drug Use	Percent Reporting Other Drug Use	Decile Rank	Percent Change
Hodgeman	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Jackson	74	22	10	38	7	4	-67
Jefferson	29	16	8	10	8	6	-48
Jewell	7	6	2	.	.	.	.
Johnson	139	18	9	1,187	15	10	-17
Kearny	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Kingman	45	14	7	26	8	5	-46
Kiowa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Labette	138	19	10	76	18	10	-1
Lane	8	8	2	.	.	.	.
Leavenworth	145	15	8	97	8	5	-46
Lincoln	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Linn	25	14	6	21	12	8	-11
Logan	14	10	4	13	8	5	-20
Lyon	120	15	8	25	9	6	-41
McPherson	18	9	3	10	4	2	-59
Marion	49	12	5	38	8	5	-36
Marshall	19	7	2	39	6	4	-6
Meade	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Miami	110	17	8	75	13	9	-22
Mitchell	23	9	3	.	.	.	.
Montgomery	161	18	9	176	13	9	-30
Morris	42	14	7	32	10	7	-26
Morton	21	15	8	21	16	10	8
Nemaha	28	5	1	23	4	2	-18
Neosho	40	10	4	18	7	4	-35
Ness	12	6	1	13	8	5	31
Norton	29	12	5	26	10	7	-16
Osage	82	15	8	66	9	6	-39
Osborne	4	5	1	.	.	.	.
Ottawa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pawnee	48	17	9	10	5	2	-74
Phillips	11	7	2	4	3	1	-63
Pottawatomie	61	14	7	11	6	3	-56
Pratt	51	13	6	37	10	7	-20
Rawlins	11	10	4	6	5	3	-51
Reno	91	10	4	198	14	9	42
Republic	15	6	1	5	2	1	-65
Rice	42	12	6	29	10	6	-22
Riley	180	21	10	.	.	.	.
Rooks	24	14	7	24	11	7	-22

Youth Who Have Ever Used Drugs Other Than Alcohol

	Base Years 1995-98			Current Year - 1999			
	Average Number Reporting Other Drug Use	Percent Reporting Other Drug Use	Decile Rank	Number Reporting Other Drug Use	Percent Reporting Other Drug Use	Decile Rank	Percent Change
Rush	17	13	6	2	2	1	-85
Russell	43	14	7	23	8	5	-48
Saline	343	20	10	173	12	8	-41
Scott	27	9	3	16	5	3	-46
Sedgwick	703	19	9	724	12	8	-34
Seward	162	15	8	.	.	.	.
Shawnee	445	19	10	885	15	10	-23
Sheridan	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Sherman	33	12	5	17	7	4	-43
Smith	10	5	1	9	4	2	-28
Stafford	12	5	1	.	.	.	.
Stanton	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Stevens	.	.	.	27	10	7	.
Sumner	120	18	9	63	11	8	-35
Thomas	24	8	3	3	2	1	-71
Trego	13	7	2	4	2	1	-68
Wabaunsee	21	11	5	10	6	3	-43
Wallace	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Washington	7	6	1	9	3	2	-38
Wichita	15	12	5	11	7	4	-41
Wilson	33	13	6	56	13	9	-2
Woodson	17	9	3	11	6	3	-31
Wyandotte	853	31	10	1,020	18	10	-40
Kansas	**6,864**	**16**		**7,420**	**12**		**-24**

Drug use means use of any of the following: marijuana, cocaine, inhalants or LSD. Among these marijuana is the most frequently reported drug used. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

STATE AND COUNTY STATISTICS

KANSAS

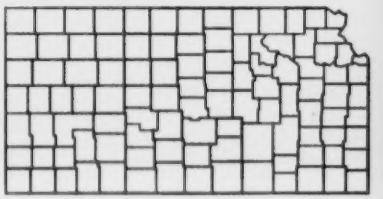
	Base Rate	Current Year Actual Number	Current Year Rate	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING				
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.5	3,690	9.6	1.3
Children in Poverty		117,134	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.0	115,052	23.4	2.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY				
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.1	150	28.4	1.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.8	274	7.1	8.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.0	32,691	85.7	0.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.5	22,911	70.9	17.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	2,683	7.0	4.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION				
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.8	6,190	54.1	10.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.2		26.4	0.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.9	20,933	75.1	1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.9	6,931	18.1	1.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.7	27,856	80.8	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING				
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.4	5,323	6.9	7.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	75.6	142	70.0	7.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	41.8	39,642	54.2	29.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children		6,790	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL				
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.2	17,581	22.7	2.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.5	23,057	53.5	59.7
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	16.0	7,420	12.0	25

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	State
Population Size	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%
Ethnicity	
White	88.4%
Black	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,966
Unemployment	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)



Kansas showed noticeable improvement in the childhood immunizations rate this year, when compared to the base years period. Further efforts to increase the Head Start participation rate for children living in poverty also were evident. Other good news included a decline in the infant mortality rate and teen violent death rate, as well as a decline in the percent of youth who reported ever using drugs other than alcohol. Unfortunately, there was a dramatic increase in the percent of youth who reported drinking alcohol in the past 30 days, which raises concerns. Also, Kansas experienced a significant increase in reported cases of child abuse and neglect.

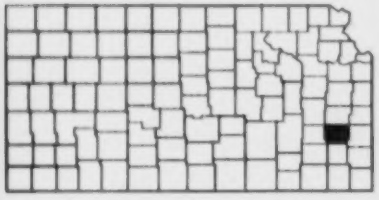
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	14,638	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.4%	88.4%
Black	1.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,426	$32,966
Unemployment	5.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Iola



Allen County enjoyed a further increase in the rate of early prenatal care and boasts a rate among the top 20 percent in Kansas. This county also experienced an increase in its Head Start participation rate among eligible children. The percent of children fully immunized by the age of 2 continued to increase and was 45 percent higher this year as compared to the base years. In contrast to that good news, Allen County saw an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings and continued to experience a high school graduation rate below the statewide average.

ALLEN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.1	18	11.8	8	9.6	10.3
Children in Poverty	.	918	22.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.1	722	27.4	7	23.4	9.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	13.0	1	33.7	7	28.4	159.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.4	0	0.0	5	7.1	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.3	138	90.2	2	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	53.8	133	78.0	5	70.9	45.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	12	7.8	7	7.0	41.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	62.7	50	70.5	4	54.1	12.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.8	672	26.1	4	26.4	1.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.0	139	79.4	5	75.1	1.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.0	20	13.1	4	18.1	23.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	74.7	175	77.8	9	80.8	4.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	14.1	45	10.6	9	6.9	24.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	34.6	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.6	272	67.2	8	54.2	100.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	54	13.3	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.8	152	38.1	9	22.7	37.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.3	259	60.4	5	53.5	53.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.4	90	13.8	9	12.1	213.7

ANDERSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.3	11	9.6	5	9.6	30.3
Children in Poverty	.	370	17.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.1	383	25.2	6	23.4	10.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	62.9	1	64.0	9	28.4	1.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.9	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.7	95	82.6	7	85.7	1.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	53.4	67	68.6	9	70.9	28.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	6	5.2	3	7.0	18.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	20	43.4	7	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	12.0	190	13.8	10	26.4	15.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.6	57	62.0	10	75.1	18.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.3	28	24.3	9	18.1	32.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.1	92	88.5	6	80.8	0.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.7	11	4.8	6	6.9	15.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	211.0	1	163.7	9	70.0	22.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.8	143	65.3	7	54.2	229.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	40	18.3	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.6	49	22.3	6	22.7	27.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

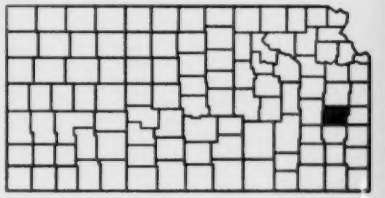
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,803	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.0%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,914	$32,966
Unemployment	5.9%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Garnett



Anderson County ranked in the top 30 percent statewide in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies, achieving further reductions this year from its base rate. The percentage of children graduating high school remained steady and well above the statewide average. As further good news, this county had a reduction in its rate of out-of-home placements. Unfortunately, the rate of births to single teen mothers was still high and increased this year. While continuing to improve, Anderson County's immunization rate still lagged behind the state figure.

ATCHISON

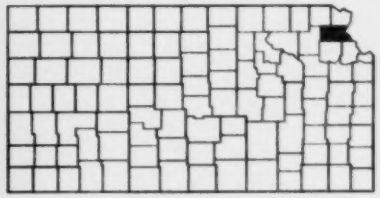
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	16,932	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.1%	88.4%
Black	5.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.8%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,772	$32,966
Unemployment	5.8%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Atchison



Atchison County experienced a further decline in its rate of low-birth-weight babies, a rate well below the state average. This county also enjoyed a 22 percent reduction in the percentage of births that occurred to mothers with less than a high school degree. Although still somewhat below the state average, Atchison County has made great improvement in the percentage of its children fully immunized by age 2. Of concern, juvenile court filings increased this year and remained in the bottom 20 percent statewide. The rates of reported child abuse and neglect were still well below the state average, but did take a turn for the worse in the past year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.7	25	11.0	7	9.6	5.8
Children in Poverty	.	969	21.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.1	955	28.4	8	23.4	8.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.7	1	29.2	7	28.4	2.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	0	0.0	5	7.1	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.2	176	77.5	8	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	42.9	118	68.4	9	70.9	59.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	11	4.8	3	7.0	12.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	41.8	54	43.7	7	54.1	4.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.8	685	23.0	6	26.4	16.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.1	123	77.8	6	75.1	3.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.8	28	12.3	4	18.1	22.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.8	158	80.6	9	80.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.0	40	7.8	8	6.9	22.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	90.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	22.4	183	37.6	4	54.2	67.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	9	1.8	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.6	168	34.3	8	22.7	39.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.6	264	56.0	3	53.5	57.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.5	50	8.3	6	12.1	135.8

BARBER

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.9	6	11.8	8	9.6	48.1
Children in Poverty	.	162	10.0	1	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.0	254	23.1	5	23.4	15.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.8	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.2	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.9	45	88.2	4	85.7	7.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.0	65	83.6	2	70.9	32.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	6	11.8	10	7.0	62.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.9	207	21.2	7	26.4	6.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.3	53	70.7	9	75.1	13.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.8	5	10.0	2	18.1	27.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.3	75	92.6	4	80.8	3.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.9	15	10.0	9	6.9	68.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	183.4	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	18.2	46	31.4	2	54.2	72.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	9	6.1	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.6	21	14.4	3	22.7	7.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.6	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.8	.	.	.	12.1	

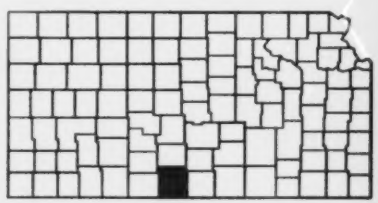
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,874	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.0%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,577	$32,966
Unemployment	4.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Medicine Lodge



Barber County posted one of the highest rates of early childhood immunizations in the state, a rate that improved further from the base years. This county also improved in the percentage of births that included first trimester prenatal care. Also positive, the rate of juvenile court filings declined somewhat and remained well below the state level. Concerns for Barber County included a decline in the percentage of high school graduates who elected to pursue post-secondary education or training. This county continued to lack a Head Start program for children from families with low-incomes.

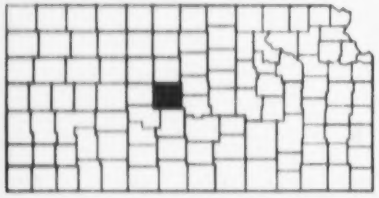
BARTON

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	29,382	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.2%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,969	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.7%	3.8%

County Seat: Great Bend



Barton County enjoyed a further reduction in the percentage of juvenile court filings. In addition, this county reduced its rate of low-weight births to a rate below that of the state average. Reductions in the infant mortality rate represented further good news. Concerns included a rather sharp increase in the rate of reports of child abuse and neglect. In addition, Barton County experienced a slight decline in the percentage of young people who graduated high school.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.7	41	10.7	6	9.6	11.1
Children in Poverty	.	1558	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.3	1509	27.9	8	23.4	1.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	13.2	0	0.0	6	28.4	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.3	4	10.5	8	7.1	21.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.1	301	79.4	8	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.1	208	65.3	10	70.9	20.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	25	6.5	6	7.0	5.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	32.0	54	34.1	7	54.1	6.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.0	1273	24.5	5	26.4	2.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.4	268	79.8	4	75.1	0.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	23.9	105	27.5	9	18.1	14.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.8	336	76.4	10	80.8	5.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.4	98	12.1	10	6.9	62.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	70.9	1	49.0	7	70.0	31.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.7	696	89.2	10	54.2	164.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	34	4.4	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.1	176	22.7	6	22.7	19.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.0	211	70.8	10	53.5	114.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	51	7.0	4	12.1	

BOURBON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse — Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.2	24	12.8	9	9.6	13.9
Children in Poverty	.	995	25.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.3	900	32.5	9	23.4	12.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	40.9	1	34.6	7	28.4	15.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.3	1	5.3	6	7.1	15.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.9	168	89.4	3	85.7	11.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.6	142	71.0	8	70.9	35.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	10	5.3	4	7.0	19.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	40.6	50	43.9	7	54.1	8.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.3	612	23.4	6	26.4	15.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.8	139	71.6	8	75.1	12.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.5	30	16.0	6	18.1	18.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	77.8	194	82.9	8	80.8	6.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.4	32	7.2	8	6.9	12.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	48.1	3	226.4	9	70.0	570.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.3	374	90.8	10	54.2	288.8
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	116	28.2	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.9	128	31.1	8	22.7	15.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.3	137	72.4	10	53.5	186.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.0	21	4.3	2	12.1	8.1

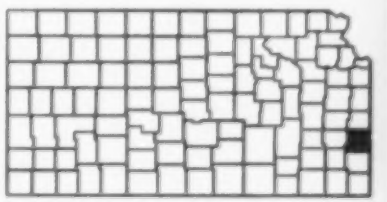
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	14,966	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.2%	88.4%
Black	2.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,462	$32,966
Unemployment	5.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Fort Scott



Bourbon County obtained a substantial increase in the immunization rate of its children. This county also saw improvement in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care. The current prenatal care rate was above the statewide average. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies in Bourbon County improved this year as well. Problems for this county included a continued rise in births to single teens this year, while the high school graduation rate fell.

BROWN

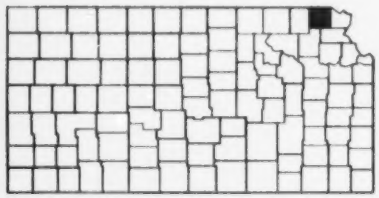
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,128	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	90.8%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	6.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,728	$32,966
Unemployment	4.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hiawatha



Brown County had one of the highest high school graduation rates in Kansas, a rate in the top 20 percent. This county can also celebrate a dramatic improvement in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. Brown County also experienced a reduction in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. In contrast to the good news, this county had a 20 percent increase in the rate of out-of-home placements. While still below the state rate, Brown County had a substantial increase in reports of child abuse and neglect.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.2	13	9.5	5	9.6	22.5
Children in Poverty	.	779	25.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	32.4	589	29.8	9	23.4	8.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.7	1	43.8	8	28.4	2.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.5	1	7.3	7	7.1	2.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.6	116	85.3	5	85.7	2.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	58.1	79	77.3	5	70.9	33.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	7	5.1	3	7.0	7.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	61.2	34	44.6	7	54.1	27.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.1	520	25.4	5	26.4	6.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.7	106	78.5	5	75.1	1.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	26	19.0	7	18.1	17.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.3	135	95.1	2	80.8	7.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.4	29	8.9	9	6.9	20.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	79.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.7	99	31.7	2	54.2	131.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	1.3	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21.1	61	19.5	5	22.7	7.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.8	169	63.8	7	53.5	100.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.7	42	9.0	6	12.1	144.8

BUTLER

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	82	10.4	6	9.6	20.7
Children in Poverty	.	1886	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	15.0	1772	13.4	1	23.4	11.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	18.8	3	23.0	7	28.4	22.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.6	3	3.8	6	7.1	55.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.7	689	88.2	4	85.7	0.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.1	679	77.8	5	70.9	21.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	67	8.5	8	7.0	24.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	59.5	110	65.0	5	54.1	9.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.0	2046	17.2	9	26.4	14.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.7	577	75.5	7	75.1	6.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.3	100	12.7	4	18.1	3.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.4	764	83.5	8	80.8	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.0	69	3.6	4	6.9	9.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	58.8	0	0.0	6	70.0	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.6	884	48.7	5	54.2	44.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	116	6.4	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.9	329	17.8	4	22.7	0.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.4	543	65.7	8	53.5	96.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.2	174	11.0	7	12.1	111.1

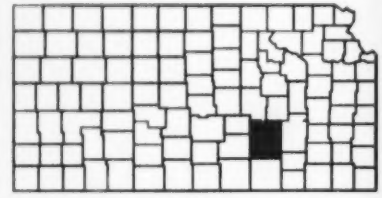
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	50,580	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.6%	88.4%
Black	0.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$36,137	$32,966
Unemployment	3.2%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: El Dorado



Butler County had a rate of childhood poverty that was in the top 20 percent in Kansas. This county also had a percentage of births to mothers without a high school degree that was far below the state rate. The rate of juvenile court filings remained below the state average. Of concern for Butler County was an increase in the rate of low-birth-weight babies of almost 25 percent. In addition, the availability of child care declined further, and this rate remained well below the statewide average.

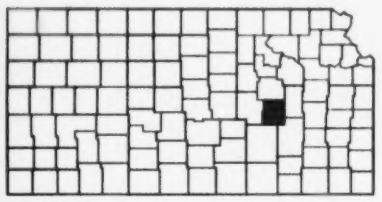
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,021	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.1%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$22,440	$32,966
Unemployment	4.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Cottonwood Falls



Chase County celebrated a substantial increase in its childhood immunization rate. The current rate represented over a 32 percent increase from its base years and was well above the state average. The percentage of children receiving free school lunches in Chase County remained below the statewide average. Other good news included a percentage of births to mothers with less than a high school degree that was in the best 20 percent for the state. Problems in this county included a drastic increase in the percentage of juvenile court filings and an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect.

CHASE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	7	13.0	9	9.6	59.2
Children in Poverty	.	147	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.2	93	18.2	2	23.4	21.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.5	1	18.5	10	7.1	309.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.1	47	88.7	4	85.7	5.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.9	31	79.3	4	70.9	32.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.7	2	3.7	2	7.0	51.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.3	120	25.5	5	26.4	19.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.8	24	75.0	7	75.1	1.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.7	5	9.3	2	18.1	44.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.2	32	80.0	9	80.8	0.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.4	1	1.3	2	6.9	84.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.9	39	52.4	5	54.2	150.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	9	12.1	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.1	52	70.9	10	22.7	206.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.0	59	49.6	1	53.5	30.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	14.2	10	8.8	6	12.1	38.1

CHAUTAUQUA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.7	6	14.6	9	9.6	14.9
Children in Poverty	.	280	27.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.2	242	32.5	9	23.4	19.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	52.0	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	31.8	3	73.2	10	7.1	-370.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.4	27	65.9	10	85.7	17.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.8	42	76.2	6	70.9	44.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	2	4.9	3	7.0	14.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	10.7	70	10.9	10	26.4	1.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.2	30	68.2	9	75.1	6.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.0	12	29.3	10	18.1	-82.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.1	44	83.0	8	80.8	2.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.8	7	6.5	7	6.9	-68.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	71.9	1	339.1	10	70.0	-371.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	60.2	102	97.8	10	54.2	-62.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	18	17.3	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	25.3	22	21.3	5	22.7	15.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	37	71.8	10	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.8	5	3.9	2	12.1	42.6

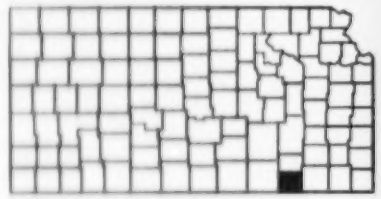
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,407	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.9%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	3.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$21,426	$32,966
Unemployment	6.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sedan



Chautauqua County enjoyed a dramatic increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. Further good news included a continued reduction in an already small rate of low-birth-weight babies. On the negative side, the percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school degree was up sharply this year from the base years. In addition, the rate of births with early prenatal care was among the lowest in Kansas. While holding relatively steady from the base years, the current availability of child care was well below the state average.

CHEROKEE

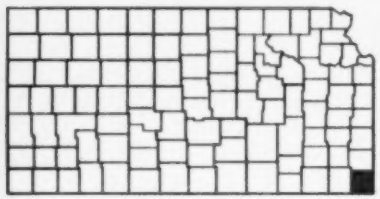
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	21,374	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.0%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	3.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$22,703	$32,966
Unemployment	6.2%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Columbus



Cherokee County enjoyed a 28 percent reduction in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. Further good news was found in a decline in the rate of juvenile court filings, a rate that remained well below the state average. This county also experienced a slight increase in its high school graduation rate. Unfortunately, a high percentage of Cherokee County children live in poverty. More than one in three children in this county were eligible for free school meals, a figure well above the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.9	31	11.2	7	9.6	3.4
Children in Poverty	.	1768	30.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.3	1544	39.1	10	23.4	4.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	31.4	2	45.6	8	28.4	45.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.4	2	7.2	7	7.1	2.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.8	222	81.0	7	85.7	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	46.5	182	65.1	10	70.9	40.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	13	4.7	3	7.0	28.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	53.8	110	56.2	6	54.1	4.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.7	754	19.7	8	26.4	5.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	57.4	164	68.0	10	75.1	18.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	23.1	62	22.5	8	18.1	2.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.1	241	80.1	9	80.8	2.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.5	40	6.1	7	6.9	18.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	103.0	1	53.3	7	70.0	48.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	60.1	392	63.2	7	54.2	5.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	164	26.4	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	13.3	78	12.6	2	22.7	5.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	27.5	287	56.8	4	53.5	106.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.1	94	14.1	9	12.1	174.5

CHEYENNE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	1	3.1	1	9.6	52.4
Children in Poverty	.	112	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.4	165	25.3	6	23.4	11.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	67.0	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.3	1	31.3	10	7.1	328.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.5	27	84.4	6	85.7	3.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.8	24	66.7	9	70.9	9.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.2	2	6.3	5	7.0	185.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	113.7	17	117.6	1	54.1	1.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.2	114	23.2	6	26.4	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	89.7	42	91.3	1	75.1	1.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.2	1	3.1	1	18.1	76.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.2	46	95.8	2	80.8	1.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.7	1	1.3	2	6.9	53.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	535.3	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.8	40	51.0	5	54.2	268.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	29	37.0	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	6.8	14	18.1	4	22.7	166.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	48	68.5	9	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.2	5	3.3	1	12.1	5.4

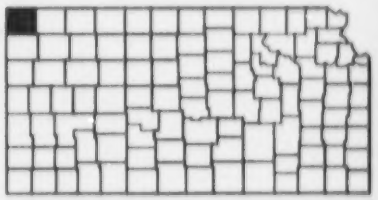
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,243	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.0%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,984	$32,966
Unemployment	1.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: St. Francis



Cheyenne County boasts one of the highest graduation rates in Kansas, a rate that increased further this year. Additional education achievements included an improvement in the percentage of high school graduates who pursued post-secondary education or training, placing the county in the top 10 percent of Kansas counties. Despite some improvement in the rate of childhood immunizations, Cheyenne County continued to trail the state average in this important indicator. In addition, this county experienced a substantial increase in reports of child abuse and neglect.

CLARK

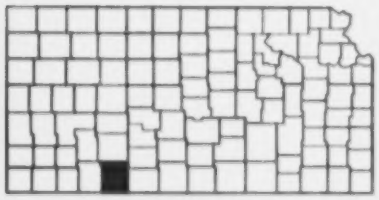
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,418	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.9%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,631	$32,966
Unemployment	2.0%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ashland



Clark County should be proud of its rank among the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its high percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. The county's child care availability rate also far exceeded the state average. With a significant increase in the percent of kindergartners immunized by age 2, the county climbed closer to the state average for this indicator. Concerns for Clark County include an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings and in the rate of births to single teens. In addition, the county has yet to implement a Head Start program for eligible children.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	2.5	4	18.2	10	9.6	
Children in Poverty	.	52	8.0	1	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.5	116	21.3	4	23.4	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	172.4	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	16.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.3	20	90.9	2	85.7	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	51.3	27	66.7	9	70.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	0	0.0	1	7.0	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.3	136	32.8	2	26.4	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	89.8	36	97.3	1	75.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.0	3	13.6	5	18.1	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.4	37	94.9	2	80.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.6	0	0.0	1	6.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	137.4	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.6	21	33.1	3	54.2	
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	1.6	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.2	17	26.3	7	22.7	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	53	61.6	6	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	3	2.2	1	12.1	

CLAY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.7	4	3.8	2	9.6	63.9
Children in Poverty	.	425	18.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.6	316	19.4	3	23.4	14.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	43.8	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.5	1	9.6	8	7.1	47.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.3	93	89.4	3	85.7	3.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.5	82	79.1	5	70.9	20.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.1	9	8.7	8	7.0	109.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	121.7	60	131.4	1	54.1	8.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.1	478	31.6	2	26.4	1.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.7	110	85.3	3	75.1	9.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.4	16	15.4	6	18.1	6.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.4	129	89.0	6	80.8	2.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.3	7	2.9	4	6.9	33.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	34.9	1	165.3	9	70.0	171.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	54.8	147	61.9	7	54.2	12.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	29	12.2	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.6	25	10.7	2	22.7	31.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	58.0	192	59.9	4	53.5	3.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	23.4	65	13.6	9	12.1	41.7

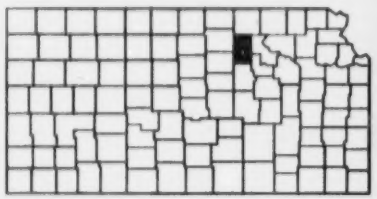
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	9,158	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.9%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,886	$32,966
Unemployment	3.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Clay Center



Clay County continued to have a level of child care availability above the state average. This county also enjoyed an increase in the percentage of high school graduates who sought additional education or training. In addition, Clay County experienced a reduction in the percentage of children who were placed outside their homes. This year's rate was well below the state average. There were concerns. Reports of child abuse and neglect were up dramatically this year. The percentage of births that were of low birth weight doubled in Clay County this year.

CLOUD

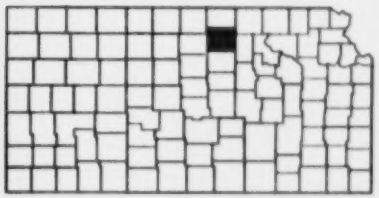
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,023	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.8%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,654	$32,966
Unemployment	3.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Concordia



Cloud County had a child care availability rate among the top 10 percent in Kansas. Further good news included a reduction in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. The percentage of students graduating high school continued to be well above the state average. Problem areas included a juvenile court filing rate that remained above the state average. The percentage of high school graduates who were pursuing additional education or training declined this year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.9	15	13.9	9	9.6	75.3
Children in Poverty	.	397	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.0	426	26.5	7	23.4	8.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.5	96	88.9	4	85.7	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	49.2	63	73.9	7	70.9	50.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	5	4.6	2	7.0	23.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	88.1	45	104.0	2	54.1	18.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	38.4	526	34.8	1	26.4	9.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.2	89	72.4	8	75.1	8.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.7	15	13.9	5	18.1	43.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.9	123	89.1	5	80.8	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.6	11	4.1	5	6.9	45.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	47.6	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	47.2	164	67.2	8	54.2	42.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	28	11.5	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	34.0	90	37.2	9	22.7	9.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.4	165	60.6	5	53.5	53.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.1	31	7.5	4	12.1	22.1

COFFEY

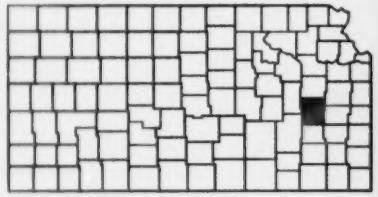
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.4	4	4.5	2	9.6	46.2
Children in Poverty	.	281	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.1	354	18.2	3	23.4	9.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	44.5	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.5	2	22.7	10	7.1	202.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.3	81	92.0	1	85.7	3.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.1	89	80.2	4	70.9	31.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	6	6.8	6	7.0	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	114.1	20	116.2	1	54.1	11.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.4	404	25.7	4	26.4	2.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.8	107	70.9	9	75.1	5.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.0	11	12.5	4	18.1	16.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.0	151	88.8	6	80.8	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.5	8	3.1	4	6.9	24.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	92.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	43.2	184	75.2	9	54.2	73.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	3.3	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.7	44	17.9	4	22.7	14.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.6	207	61.0	6	53.5	81.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.6	42	8.0	5	12.1	122.6

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,404	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.4%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,874	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	6.2%	3.8%

County Seat: Burlington



Coffey County should be pleased to have a percentage of births with early prenatal care that ranked in the top 10 percent statewide. The percent of births to single teen mothers declined substantially and was well below the state average. Children approved for free lunches, an indicator of poverty, declined in Coffey County and ranked in the top third in the state. Contrasting that good news were concerns that included a reduction in the percentage of youth seeking post-secondary education and training. In addition, this country experienced an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect.

COMANCHE

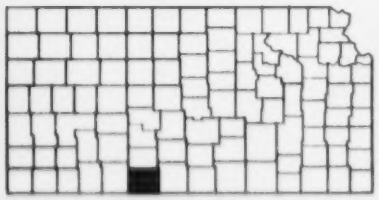
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,313	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,057	$32,966
Unemployment	2.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Coldwater



Comanche County continued to experience a rate of births to mothers with no high school degree that ranked in the top third, well below the state average. This county also enjoyed an increase in the percentage of young people who pursued post-secondary education or training. Although Comanche County continued to obtain an early childhood immunization rate above the state average, this year's performance declined somewhat compared to the base years, as did the decline in the percentage of births with early prenatal care.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.1	0	0.0	1	9.6	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	73	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.4	75	21.4	4	23.4	4.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	51.5	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.1	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.8	19	73.1	9	85.7	9.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	75.3	22	71.4	8	70.9	5.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	9.1	0	0.0	1	7.0	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.5	99	31.6	2	26.4	10.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.8	32	88.9	2	75.1	7.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.1	3	11.5	3	18.1	3.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.2	36	92.3	4	80.8	3.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.1	4	8.0	8	6.9	94.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.3	20	40.6	4	54.2	13.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	2.0	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.5	11	22.7	6	22.7	10.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.2	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.5	.	.	.	12.1	

COWLEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.1	52	12.4	8	9.6	12.4
Children in Poverty	.	1876	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.6	1855	26.5	7	23.4	3.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.9	1	13.5	6	28.4	63.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.3	1	2.4	6	7.1	67.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.8	370	88.5	4	85.7	4.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.2	295	67.5	9	70.9	8.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	26	6.2	5	7.0	15.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.6	85	60.3	5	54.1	6.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.9	1333	20.6	8	26.4	3.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.2	344	76.3	6	75.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.6	78	18.7	7	18.1	9.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.2	451	76.7	9	80.8	6.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.6	56	5.3	6	6.9	5.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	66.0	2	69.0	7	70.0	4.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	54.5	923	90.8	10	54.2	66.8
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	155	15.3	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.8	315	31.3	8	22.7	8.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.2	527	62.1	7	53.5	52.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.7	200	14.4	9	12.1	205.4

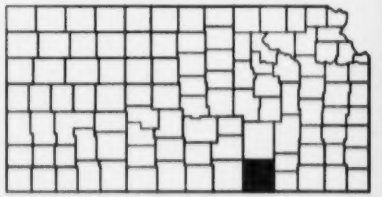
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	36,915	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.5%	88.4%
Black	2.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.9%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,107	$32,966
Unemployment	5.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Winfield



Cowley County posted further improvement in its rate of births with early prenatal care. This county also maintained a percentage of young people pursuing post-secondary education that remained slightly above the state average. The immunizations rate was up this year but did remain somewhat behind the state average. Of concern, Cowley County experienced a decline in the percentage of its young people who graduated high school, and the county experienced increases in reports of child abuse and neglect.

CRAWFORD

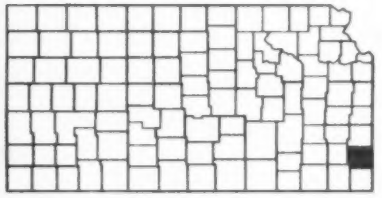
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	35,568	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.7%	88.4%
Black	1.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,516	$32,966
Unemployment	4.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Girard



Crawford County enjoyed a substantial increase from base years in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2 and a slight reduction in the rate of juvenile court filings. Further good news included a reduction in the rate of infant mortality. Areas of concern included a further increase in the rate of out-of-home placements, a rate that ranked in the worst 10 percent statewide. Also, a high percentage, close to one in three, of Crawford County children remained eligible for free school meals.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.1	74	13.4	9	9.6	46.1
Children in Poverty	.	2250	26.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.6	2009	31.2	9	23.4	1.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.7	3	47.8	8	28.4	72.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.8	2	3.6	6	7.1	38.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.8	459	83.5	6	85.7	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	49.5	284	69.0	9	70.9	39.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	42	7.6	7	7.0	50.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	45.7	107	49.5	6	54.1	8.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.8	1326	24.5	5	26.4	7.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.2	284	72.4	8	75.1	1.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.6	112	20.3	7	18.1	22.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.8	392	81.5	9	80.8	3.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12.9	141	14.9	10	6.9	16.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	49.7	1	33.8	6	70.0	32.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	80.4	752	85.9	9	54.2	6.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	164	18.7	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.2	222	25.6	7	22.7	5.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.1	584	53.9	2	53.5	49.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	9.3	206	16.2	10	12.1	75.5

DECATUR

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.9	2	6.5	3	9.6	31.2
Children in Poverty	.	149	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.8	139	20.9	4	23.4	4.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.6	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	23	74.2	9	85.7	15.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.7	43	89.3	1	70.9	49.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.3	0	0.0	1	7.0	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	120.9	17	126.5	1	54.1	4.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.7	168	27.2	4	26.4	2.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.6	39	90.7	1	75.1	12.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.6	2	6.5	2	18.1	2.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.2	43	95.6	2	80.8	1.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.9	4	4.4	5	6.9	15.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	227.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.5	28	31.3	2	54.2	6.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.9	22	24.9	7	22.7	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.5	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	10.4	.	.	.	12.1	

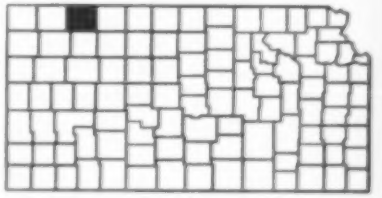
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,021	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,250	$32,966
Unemployment	2.9%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oberlin



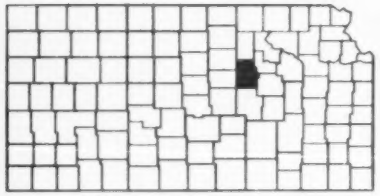
Decatur County boasts a number of education achievements. The rate of high school graduates who pursued post-secondary education was in the top 10 percent statewide. The high school graduation rate was also well above the state average. Decatur County had one of the highest immunization rates in Kansas and a low incidence of reports of child abuse and neglect. Tempering this good news was a decline of the percentage of births that included first trimester prenatal care; the latest rate was in the bottom 20 percent statewide.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	18,958	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.9%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,019	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.3%	3.8%

County Seat: Abilene



Dickinson County experienced a decline in the percentage of its births that were to mothers who lacked a high school degree, and the county also enjoyed a drop in its rate of juvenile court filings. This county also had a very high rate of child care availability, an important resource to parents. On the economic front, Dickinson County had a decline in the percentage of its children who were eligible for free school meals. Areas of concern in this county included an increase in its childhood mortality rate along with a rise in reports of child abuse and neglect.

DICKINSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.9	22	10.5	6	9.6	3.2
Children in Poverty	.	852	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.3	761	17.8	2	23.4	29.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.5	3	77.9	9	28.4	119.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.3	1	4.8	6	7.1	34.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.5	184	88.5	4	85.7	3.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.1	189	71.2	8	70.9	12.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.9	18	8.6	8	7.0	25.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	62.3	75	82.6	3	54.1	32.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.8	1161	34.9	1	26.4	6.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.3	201	74.7	7	75.1	6.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.3	25	12.0	3	18.1	26.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.6	269	83.5	8	80.8	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.5	15	2.8	3	6.9	9.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	58.9	1	70.0	7	70.0	19.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.5	277	52.7	6	54.2	13.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	72	13.7	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	29.5	89	17.1	3	22.7	42.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.1	298	67.3	9	53.5	109.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	10.2	68	7.4	4	12.1	27.3

DONIPHAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.2	13	11.2	7	9.6	22.2
Children in Poverty	.	428	21.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.7	410	25.0	6	23.4	9.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	25.9	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.1	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.6	102	87.9	5	85.7	7.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	45.8	84	74.7	7	70.9	63.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	9	7.8	7	7.0	34.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	88.2	40	92.4	3	54.1	4.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.8	306	23.3	6	26.4	31.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.4	106	75.2	7	75.1	8.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.9	15	12.9	4	18.1	54.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.9	141	89.2	5	80.8	10.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.6	9	3.9	5	6.9	7.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	107.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.6	49	22.9	1	54.2	38.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	1.4	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	13.8	45	21.0	5	22.7	52.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	115	64.4	8	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	17	5.3	3	12.1	

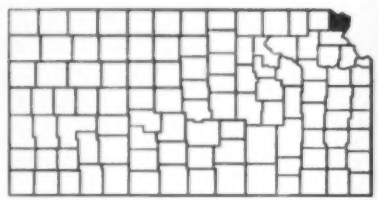
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,134	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.1%	88.4%
Black	1.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,317	$32,966
Unemployment	6.2%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Troy



Doniphan County had one of the lowest rates of reported child abuse and neglect in Kansas. This county also experienced a decline in the percentage of births to mothers with no high school degree and an increase in its already high Head Start participation rate. Problem areas included a substantial increase in juvenile court filings this year in comparison to base year rates. Doniphan County also experienced an increase in the percentage of its births that were to single teenage mothers.

DOUGLAS

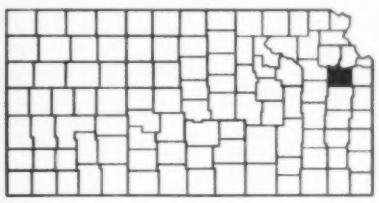
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	81,798	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	20.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	87.7%	88.4%
Black	4.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$35,631	$32,966
Unemployment	4.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lawrence



Douglas County enjoyed declines in the percentage of its births that occurred to single teen mothers and to mothers who lacked a high school degree. Both rates were in the top 20 percent statewide. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies in this county also posted a decline and remained well below statewide averages. Concerns existed with the Head Start participation rate of eligible children. Although the rate held steady compared to base years, it remained well below the state average. In addition, the rate of post-secondary education or training remained one of the lowest in Kansas and declined almost 20 percent in comparing the current and base year figures.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.1	71	6.1	2	9.6	14.8
Children in Poverty	.	2814	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.2	2281	17.4	2	23.4	4.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.7	2	13.7	6	28.4	17.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.7	4	3.4	6	7.1	49.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.7	980	84.3	6	85.7	3.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	75.9	669	74.3	7	70.9	2.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	64	5.5	4	7.0	17.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	26.8	78	26.5	8	54.1	1.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.5	4320	31.2	2	26.4	1.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.6	389	55.9	10	75.1	19.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.0	103	8.8	2	18.1	2.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.7	696	82.4	8	80.8	0.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.7	159	6.0	7	6.9	30.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	38.5	4	40.0	6	70.0	4.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	48.8	1151	52.8	6	54.2	8.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	271	12.4	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.6	584	26.4	7	22.7	35.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	51.3	223	53.1	2	53.5	3.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	37.1	57	12.1	8	12.1	67.5

EDWARDS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.5	5	10.0	6	9.6	55.0
Children in Poverty	.	146	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.5	160	25.7	6	23.4	4.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.9	1	150.1	10	28.4	420.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.8	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.0	37	74.0	9	85.7	7.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.4	35	78.8	5	70.9	26.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	4	8.0	8	7.0	14.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.5	134	23.5	6	26.4	14.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.7	32	84.2	3	75.1	1.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.0	9	18.0	6	18.1	10.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.8	38	76.0	10	80.8	9.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.5	8	8.8	9	6.9	154.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	198.2	2	949.6	10	70.0	350.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	59.8	45	50.8	5	54.2	15.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	7	7.9	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.8	16	18.1	4	22.7	14.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	40.1	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

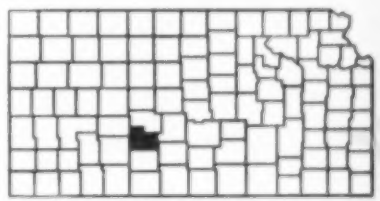
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,787	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.2%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,784	$32,966
Unemployment	3.1%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Kinsley



Edwards County posted further improvement in its rate of early childhood immunizations and saw an increase in the availability of childcare. A high percentage of this county's high school graduates sought further education or training. On the negative side, Edwards County had a decline in the percentage of its young people who had graduated high school and ranked in the bottom 10 percent statewide for this indicator. This county also continued to have no Head Start program for its eligible children.

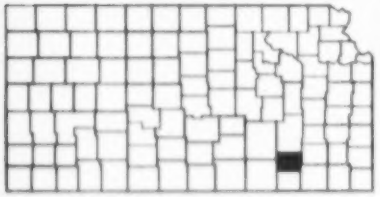
ELK

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,327	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.3%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,091	$32,966
Unemployment	4.9%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Howard



Elk County enjoyed a decline in the percentage of its births that occurred among single teenage mothers. This county also posted a substantial increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. There was also a slight increase in its rate of child care availability, though this rate lagged behind the state average. Further concerns included an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements of children, along with a rise in reports of child abuse and neglect.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.3	2	6.9	3	9.6	33.0
Children in Poverty	.	172	24.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.8	319	38.1	10	23.4	6.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	37.5	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.4	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.7	24	82.8	7	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	46.8	20	75.6	6	70.9	61.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.8	3	10.3	9	7.0	17.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	7.5	46	9.8	10	26.4	29.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.4	42	71.2	9	75.1	1.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.9	6	20.7	8	18.1	4.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.5	59	88.1	6	80.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.3	12	15.7	10	6.9	51.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	108.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	61.1	94	127.2	10	54.2	108.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	6.8	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	30.3	22	29.6	8	22.7	2.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	8.2	.	.	.	12.1	

ELLIS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.8	34	10.9	7	9.6	61.8
Children in Poverty	.	927	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.6	742	15.2	1	23.4	8.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.1	1	19.1	6	28.4	36.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.6	2	6.4	7	7.1	25.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.8	290	93.2	1	85.7	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.1	202	86.2	2	70.9	36.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	29	9.3	9	7.0	50.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	67.4	86	68.1	5	54.1	1.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.0	1430	30.6	3	26.4	7.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.2	226	83.4	3	75.1	6.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	4.7	39	12.5	4	18.1	164.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.8	271	87.1	7	80.8	4.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.2	31	3.8	5	6.9	26.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	42.6	0	0.0	6	70.0	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	27.5	406	55.5	6	54.2	101.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	51	7.0	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.5	143	19.4	4	22.7	25.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	44.1	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.8	.	.	.	12.1	

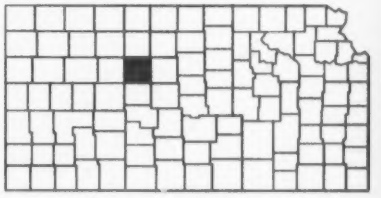
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	26,004	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.0%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,144	$32,966
Unemployment	3.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hays



Ellis County had one of the highest rates of both births with early prenatal care and childhood immunizations, both important predictors of early child well-being. Ellis County also can celebrate a further increase in the percentage of its youth who pursued post-secondary education or training. In addition, despite a slight decline in the current year, this county's students finished high school at a higher rate than the statewide average graduation rate. Concerns for this county included increases in the percentage of births to single teenage mothers and in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies.

ELLSWORTH

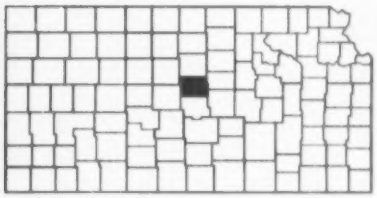
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,586	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.6%	88.4%
Black	2.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,332	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ellsworth



Ellsworth County continued to enjoy a very high rate of high school graduations. In addition, there was good news for economic indictors for children in this county, with both low rates of children living in poverty and percentages of children eligible for free school meals. For those children who were eligible for Head Start, Ellsworth County had a high rate of participation. Of concern, this county had an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect. In addition, although post-secondary education and training increased, it remained below the statewide average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse — Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.9	2	3.3	1	9.6	57.7
Children in Poverty	.	186	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.6	233	17.3	2	23.4	12.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.8	1	93.5	10	28.4	424.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.9	1	16.7	9	7.1	111.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	55	91.7	2	85.7	4.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.2	53	86.6	2	70.9	25.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	6	10.0	9	7.0	41.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.8	15	89.0	3	54.1	7.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.1	303	33.6	2	26.4	24.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.9	81	72.3	8	75.1	3.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.0	8	13.3	5	18.1	2.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.9	112	94.9	2	80.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.9	3	2.0	3	6.9	49.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	47.5	1	235.0	9	70.0	394.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	50.9	96	64.9	7	54.2	27.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	20	13.5	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	42.6	57	39.0	10	22.7	8.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

FINNEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.2	134	14.7	10	9.6	11.0
Children in Poverty	.	2104	17.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.2	3220	35.9	10	23.4	5.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	37.3	2	20.3	6	28.4	45.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.4	7	7.7	7	7.1	19.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	58.7	494	55.0	10	85.7	6.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	45.7	597	69.2	8	70.9	51.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	62	6.8	6	7.0	17.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	81.0	167	84.0	3	54.1	3.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.3	1655	17.4	9	26.4	7.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.8	290	82.2	4	75.1	5.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	43.7	440	48.5	10	18.1	11.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	58.4	353	55.9	10	80.82	4.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.9	87	6.1	7	6.9	48.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	40.5	4	126.0	8	70.0	211.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.5	712	53.3	6	54.2	159.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	44	3.3	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21.1	215	15.8	3	22.7	25.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.0	504	63.3	7	53.5	111.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.0	154	11.2	8	12.1	87.1

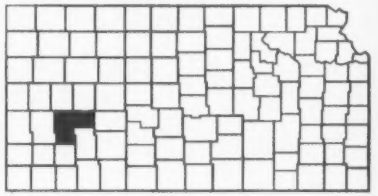
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	33,070	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	34.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	69.3%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	25.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,383	$32,966
Unemployment	3.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Garden City



Finney County experienced an increase in the percentage of its high school graduates who pursued post-secondary education or training. There were also increases in the immunization rate and a high rate of Head Start participation among eligible children. Problem areas included a high school graduation rate for this county that declined further this year, and remained among the lowest in Kansas. In addition, a very high percentage of births in Finney County were to mothers who lacked a high school degree.

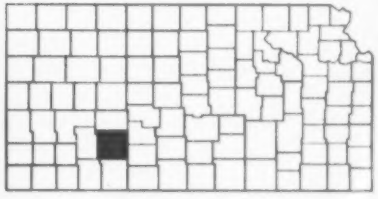
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	27,463	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	80.5%	88.4%
Black	1.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	14.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,613	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Dodge City



Ford County continued to experience very high rates of Head Start participation among its eligible children. The percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2 was up sharply from the base years rate and exceeded the statewide average this year. Sadly, this county experienced an increase in its rate of infant mortality. In addition, despite a decline this year, juvenile courts filings remained well above the statewide average.

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FORD

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 0 → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.7	66	10.1	6	9.6	5.8
Children in Poverty	.	1771	21.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.5	2440	38.8	10	23.4	3.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.4	3	45.2	8	28.4	6.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.1	8	12.2	9	7.1	49.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	65.1	449	68.4	10	85.7	5.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.7	371	74.4	7	70.9	31.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	51	7.8	7	7.0	15.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	111.2	216	129.8	1	54.1	16.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.1	1426	22.9	6	26.4	9.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.6	244	71.6	8	75.1	10.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	42.1	289	44.1	10	18.1	4.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	70.8	341	72.9	10	80.8	2.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.2	60	6.2	7	6.9	14.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	136.2	3	120.0	8	70.0	11.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	44.9	519	56.5	6	54.2	25.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	65	7.1	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	43.9	364	39.6	10	22.7	9.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.4	450	58.9	4	53.5	71.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.0	96	8.7	6	12.1	46.5

FRANKLIN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.3	40	11.2	7	9.6	9.5
Children in Poverty	.	1142	17.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.3	1087	22.3	5	23.4	0.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	39.5	2	39.5	7	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.1	4	11.2	9	7.1	10.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.2	294	83.1	6	85.7	2.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.5	270	76.1	6	70.9	37.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	24	6.7	6	7.0	3.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	22.2	20	22.7	8	54.1	2.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.8	1070	23.0	6	26.4	7.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.7	189	70.0	9	75.1	0.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.4	57	16.1	6	18.1	17.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.0	270	86.5	7	80.8	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.0	90	12.3	10	6.9	54.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	72.3	1	55.4	7	70.0	23.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.4	387	55.4	6	54.2	47.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	41	5.9	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	25.1	168	23.9	7	22.7	5.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	20.8	76	79.0	10	53.5	278.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.5	18	5.1	3	12.1	46.9

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	21,994	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.4%	88.4%
Black	1.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,210	$32,966
Unemployment	5.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ottawa

Franklin County maintained a high school graduation rate that exceeded the statewide average and enjoyed a reduction in the percentage of births that occurred to women who lacked a high school degree. Immunization rates were also up in Franklin County. Of concern, this county had an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements and obtained one of the higher rates in Kansas for this negative outcome. The rate of births to single teenage mothers also increased this year.

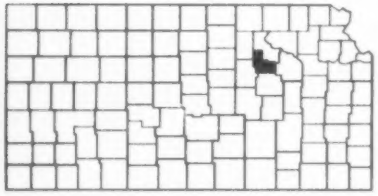
GEARY

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	30,453	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	66.4%	88.4%
Black	22.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.8%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,231	$32,966
Unemployment	6.9%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Junction City



Geary County experienced a substantial improvement from base years in the rate of Head Start participation among its eligible children. This county also obtained a decline in the percentage of births that were to mothers with less than a high school degree, a rate in the top third of the state. Immunizations were up this year but still trail the statewide average. Further concerns included a decline in an already low high school graduation rate.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.8	56	8.8	4	9.6	12.6
Children in Poverty	.	2173	23.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.5	2443	36.2	10	23.4	3.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	57.5	3	52.9	9	28.4	8.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	12.6	7	11.0	9	7.1	12.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	70.6	475	75.0	9	85.7	6.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.7	387	66.3	10	70.9	14.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.9	65	10.2	9	7.0	15.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	74.7	239	98.3	2	54.1	31.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.1	1312	25.8	4	26.4	17.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	57.6	161	73.2	7	75.1	27.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.4	77	12.1	3	18.1	15.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	66.8	220	64.0	10	80.8	4.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	63	8.2	8	6.9	12.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	130.6	2	99.3	8	70.0	24.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	76.9	601	81.1	9	54.2	5.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	56	7.6	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	43.3	404	56.7	10	22.7	31.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.3	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.8	.	.	.	12.1	

GOVE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	2.7	1	2.7	1	9.6	
Children in Poverty	.	80	9.0	1	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	13.4	134	17.4	2	23.4	29.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	93.3	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	16.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.2	33	89.2	3	85.7	4.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.9	47	87.9	1	70.9	57.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.7	1	2.7	2	7.0	64.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	119.1	17	125.9	1	54.1	5.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.5	116	21.4	7	26.4	4.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.2	54	87.1	2	75.1	3.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.5	4	10.8	2	18.1	3.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.3	62	100.0	1	80.8	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.5	5	5.7	6	6.9	129.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	96.0	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.4	28	32.9	3	54.2	53.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	9.4	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	7.2	15	17.6	3	22.7	145.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

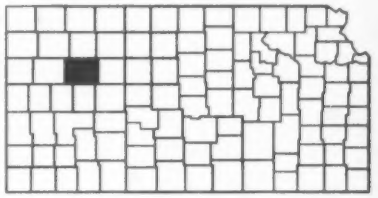
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,231	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,275	$32,966
Unemployment	3.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Gove



Gove County experienced a substantial gain and now boasts one of the highest immunization rates in Kansas. In addition, this county had a high rate of births that included early prenatal care. Educationally, Gove County continued exceptional performance in high school graduation and had an increase in the percentage of youth seeking post-secondary education or training. There were few concerns noted for this county, although Gove County continued to lag behind the state average in child care availability.

GRAHAM

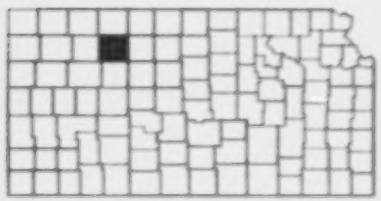
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,543	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.8%	88.4%
Black	2.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,742	$32,866
Unemployment	3.1%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hill City



Graham County maintained a level of child care availability that was in the top third statewide. In addition, this county had a high percentage of its young people seeking post-secondary education or training and improved further on its high school graduation rate. Graham County obtained substantial improvement in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2; however, the current rate continued to lag behind the state average. Other concerns included an increase in the percentage of births that were to mothers who lacked a high school degree and a reduction in the rate of early prenatal care.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	3	11.5	8	9.6	
Children in Poverty	.	163	18.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.5	132	25.0	6	23.4	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	29.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.8	22	84.6	6	85.7	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	37.5	23	69.0	9	70.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.0	3	11.5	9	7.0	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	66.3	17	74.2	4	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.1	153	28.1	3	26.4	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.4	42	82.4	4	75.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.4	4	15.4	6	18.1	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.4	51	92.7	4	80.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.9	4	4.7	5	6.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	1	475.5	10	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	25.9	37	43.6	4	54.2	
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	4.7	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.2	18	21.6	6	22.7	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.8				53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.5				12.1	

GRANT

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	14.8	22	13.3	9	9.6	9.9
Children in Poverty	.	423	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.4	527	28.8	8	23.4	1.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	47.1	1	46.4	8	28.4	1.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.4	2	12.1	9	7.1	44.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	70.1	127	78.9	8	85.7	12.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.8	107	81.6	3	70.9	54.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	18	10.9	9	7.0	69.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	110.9	52	106.9	2	54.1	3.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.4	317	15.7	10	26.4	19.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.4	80	84.2	3	75.1	4.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	41.2	78	47.3	10	18.1	14.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.9	95	85.6	7	80.8	5.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.9	3	1.0	1	6.9	80.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	93.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	15.9	99	34.1	3	54.2	14.8
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	1.4	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.1	70	23.6	6	22.7	23.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	197	51.7	2	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	64	15.8	10	12.1	

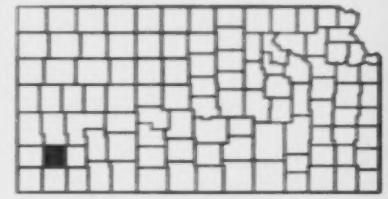
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,159	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	34.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	76.8%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	21.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,241	$32,966
Unemployment	4.1%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ulysses



Grant County had one of the lowest rates of out-of-home placement in Kansas. This county also posted a very high rate of Head Start participation for its eligible children. There were improvements in the percentage of children graduating from high school and in young people who sought further education or training. Problems areas included a further reduction in an already low rate of child care availability and an even greater increase in the high rate of births that occurred to mothers who lacked a high school degree, one of the highest rates in Kansas.

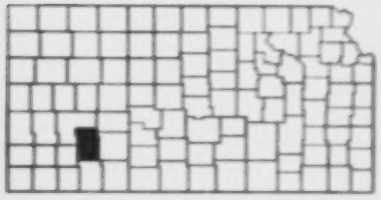
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,396	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,878	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Cimarron



Gray County had one of the lowest rates of reported child abuse or neglect in Kansas. This county maintained its high rate of high school graduation, in the top third statewide. Increases in the child care availability and Head Start participation rates were other good news. A decline in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care raises concerns. The county's rate was well below the state average. Also of concern was the high percentage of births to women who lack a high school degree. That figure was up this year as compared to the base years rate.

GRAY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.1	7	6.4	3	9.6	25.6
Children in Poverty	.	188	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.1	248	19.1	3	23.4	5.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	14.8	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.9	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.8	80	73.4	9	85.7	9.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.7	69	72.4	7	70.9	7.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	5	4.5	2	7.0	10.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.2	15	51.9	6	54.1	7.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.6	326	27.5	4	26.4	27.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.7	66	82.5	4	75.1	2.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	32.6	43	40.6	10	18.1	24.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.6	80	93.0	3	80.8	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.7	5	2.7	3	6.9	57.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	182.5	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.6	28	15.5	1	54.2	14.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21.0	22	12.2	2	22.7	41.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.2	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.1	.	.	.	12.1	

GREELEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse — Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.7	2	8.7	4	9.6	29.0
Children in Poverty	.	62	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.6	68	19.0	3	23.4	22.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	90.9	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.9	15	65.2	10	85.7	19.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.5	16	83.3	3	70.9	27.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.4	4	17.4	10	7.0	41.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.0	82	21.3	7	26.4	1.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.2	22	91.7	1	75.1	5.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	23.9	6	26.1	9	18.1	9.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.3	24	92.3	4	80.8	3.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.8	3	5.5	6	6.93	97.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	198.0	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	4.8	8	14.6	1	54.2	204.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	1.8	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	2.5	1	1.8	1	22.7	26.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	54	49.5	1	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	10.0	11	10.6	7	12.1	5.8

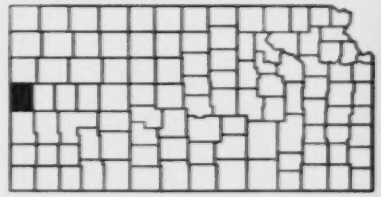
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,774	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	93.5%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,989	$32,966
Unemployment	3.8%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Tribune



Greeley County can boast one of Kansas' highest rates of post-secondary education or training activity, a figure that increased this year compared to base years. This county also saw dramatic improvements in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. In addition, Greeley County reports of child abuse and neglect were among the lowest in Kansas. Cause for concern may exist in the finding that Greeley County had one of the highest rates of low-birth-weight babies this year, along with a low level of early prenatal care.

GREENWOOD

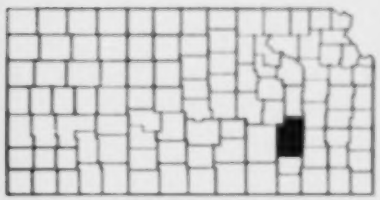
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,847	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.8%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,740	$32,966
Unemployment	5.2%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Eureka



Greenwood County saw substantial improvement this year in the percentage of low-weight births, as compared to the base years figure for this county. Greenwood County also achieved close to an 80 percent improvement from base years in the rate of early childhood immunizations and maintained a high school graduation rate that was above the state average. Problems in this county included an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements and a rate of juvenile court filings in the worst 10 percent statewide. In the current year, Greenwood County had a sharp reduction in the percentage of youth who sought post-secondary education or training.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.9	12	14.5	9	9.6	32.1
Children in Poverty	.	391	20.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.4	366	29.0	8	23.4	7.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.0	1	12.0	9	7.1	21.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.4	63	79.7	8	85.7	2.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	44.8	61	80.3	4	70.9	79.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.5	4	4.8	3	7.0	35.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.4	241	19.8	8	26.4	7.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.3	56	61.5	10	75.1	18.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.6	21	25.3	9	18.1	22.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.6	91	88.3	6	80.8	0.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.2	20	9.7	9	6.9	55.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	142.4	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.7	148	74.2	8	54.2	120.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	18	9.0	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.8	95	47.9	10	22.7	110.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.1	115	60.1	4	53.5	81.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.5	12	4.2	2	12.1	35.2

HAMILTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	7	18.4	10	9.6	154.2
Children in Poverty	.	91	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.5	175	33.2	10	23.4	12.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	88.8	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.2	1	26.3	10	7.1	263.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.8	28	73.7	9	85.7	5.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.2	29	80.6	4	70.9	10.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	8	21.1	10	7.0	315.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.4	62	16.0	9	26.4	37.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.8	29	90.6	1	75.1	16.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.3	11	28.9	9	18.1	88.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.4	32	97.0	1	80.8	1.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.6	0	0.0	1	6.9	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	132.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	15.6	16	26.2	1	54.2	68.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.7	9	14.8	3	22.7	39.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.7	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.2	.	.	.	12.1	

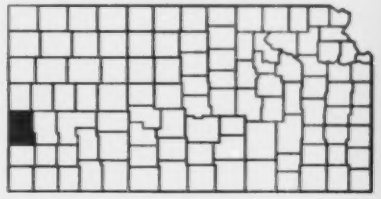
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,388	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.6%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,483	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Syracuse



Hamilton County youth enjoyed many educational accomplishments. Their graduation rate was among the top 10 percent in Kansas. Slightly more than nine in 10 high school graduates elected to pursue additional education or training. The rate of juvenile court filings was well below the statewide average, and there were no incidents of out-of-home placements. In contrast to this good news, Hamilton County did experience a sizable increase in the percentage of births that were to mothers who lacked a high school degree. In addition, the rate of births to single teen mothers increased substantially and was almost twice the [illegible]age.

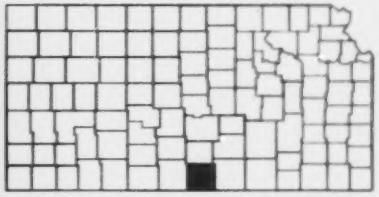
HARPER

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,124	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.6%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,358	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Anthony



Harper County improved on the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. The current year rate for that indicator was above the statewide average. This county also enjoyed reductions in the percentage of its children that experienced out-of-home placement. Concerns for this county included a decline in the percentage of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, and an increase in the percentage of births to mother who lacked a high school degree.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.2	10	14.5	9	9.6	77.3
Children in Poverty	.	307	18.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.6	330	26.5	7	23.4	3.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.5	1	80.7	9	28.4	421.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.1	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.7	56	81.2	7	85.7	1.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.0	58	81.8	3	70.9	13.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.1	4	5.8	4	7.0	41.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.1	278	25.8	4	26.4	4.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.2	63	70.8	9	75.1	8.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.0	14	20.3	7	18.1	19.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.4	89	84.8	7	80.8	10.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.3	7	4.1	5	6.9	22.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	254.5	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	28.2	103	61.8	7	54.2	119.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	14	8.4	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.9	35	21.1	5	22.7	1.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.9	145	54.6	3	53.5	52.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.0	31	9.7	7	12.1	38.8

HARVEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	42	10.3	6	9.6	27.5
Children in Poverty	.	1122	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.1	1348	21.3	4	23.4	8.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	24.7	4	62.1	9	28.4	141.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.2	3	7.3	7	7.1	10.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.1	346	85.0	6	85.7	0.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.0	302	79.6	4	70.9	18.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.6	25	6.1	5	7.0	32.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	58.7	49	60.3	5	54.1	2.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.7	1644	28.6	3	26.4	0.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.7	301	78.0	6	75.1	3.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.8	77	18.9	7	18.1	27.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.4	386	83.7	8	80.8	1.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.1	45	4.8	6	6.9	40.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	99.4	1	42.0	6	70.0	57.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.6	379	42.5	4	54.2	96.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	74	8.3	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.6	261	29.0	8	22.7	17.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	24.2	456	68.8	9	53.5	184.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	8.6	180	12.4	8	12.1	44.0

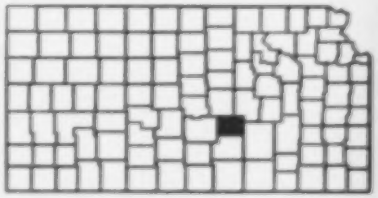
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	31,028	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.9%	88.4%
Black	1.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,955	$32,966
Unemployment	2.9%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Newton



Harvey County maintained a level of child care availability that was among the top 30 percent in Kansas. Further gains this year in full immunization placed this county above the state average for this important indicator. Harvey County also achieved a sizable reduction in the percentage of its children who required out-of-home placement. Sadly, this county experienced an increase in childhood mortality during the most recent year. In addition, there was an increase in the percentage of births to unmarried teenagers this year.

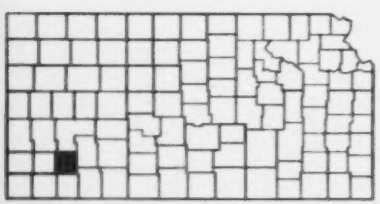
HASKELL

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,886	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	85.0%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	14.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,632	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sublette



Haskell County attained success in a number of educational areas. The high school graduation rate was in the top 30 percent for the state, and more than eight in 10 graduates sought additional training or education. This county also had a very high rate of Head Start participation among its eligible children. Areas of concern for Haskell County included a rate of births with early prenatal care that was among the bottom 10 percent statewide. In addition, one in three children in Haskell County were eligible for free school meals.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.8	4	5.3	2	9.6	22.1
Children in Poverty	.	145	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.8	316	35.1	10	23.4	35.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	20.1	2	200.9	10	28.4	601.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.6	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	62.8	47	63.5	10	85.7	11.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.6	44	70.6	8	70.9	39.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	7	9.3	9	7.0	41.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	100.4	10	96.8	2	54.1	3.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.1	198	21.0	7	26.4	15.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.3	53	85.5	2	75.1	10.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	34.1	33	44.0	10	18.1	28.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.3	62	93.9	3	80.8	7.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.3	1	0.7	1	6.9	47.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	61.2	1	284.5	10	70.0	964.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.0	40	28.5	2	54.2	78.4
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	2.1	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.0	16	11.2	2	22.7	11.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

HODGEMAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.8	1	6.3	3	9.6	19.6
Children in Poverty	.	76	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.8	87	18.0	2	23.4	9.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.1	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.8	12	75.0	9	85.7	14.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.3	27	88.2	1	70.9	35.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.9	1	6.3	5	7.0	29.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	-54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.2	68	16.5	9	26.4	15.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	86.0	38	86.4	2	75.1	10.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.9	2	12.5	4	18.1	58.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.5	44	97.8	1	80.8	11.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.2	1	1.6	2	6.9	28.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	288.2	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.8	17	27.0	2	54.2	106.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	4.4	7	11.2	2	22.7	157.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

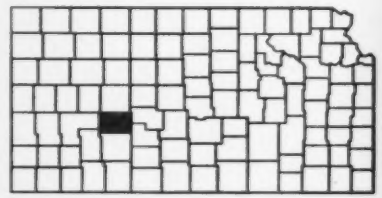
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,177	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.4%	88.4%
Black	1.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,296	$32,966
Unemployment	2.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Jetmore



Hodgeman County can be proud of its educational accomplishments. The high school graduation rate increased this year and was among the top 10 percent in Kansas. A high percentage of Hodgeman County high school graduates continued to seek post-secondary education or training at a rate well above the state average. This county also posted substantial improvement in its rate of early childhood immunization and had one of the highest rates in Kansas in the most recent year. There were concerns. The percentage of births with early prenatal care declined in the latest year. Hodgeman County continued to have a very low rate of child care availability.

JACKSON

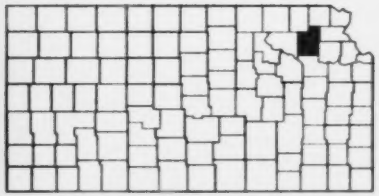
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,525	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.6%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	5.9%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,572	$32,966
Unemployment	4.8%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Holton



Jackson County experienced further improvement in its high school graduation rate and posted a rate in the top third of Kansas counties. The rate of early childhood immunization in this county increased further this year and remained well above the state average. The percentage of children who were eligible for free school meals declined this year, another positive outcome. Concerns included a precipitous drop in the percentage of high school graduates who sought further education or training. In the most recent year, that rate was among the lowest in Kansas.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.2	18	11.5	7	9.6	40.5
Children in Poverty	.	548	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.3	475	19.9	4	23.4	6.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	46.2	2	77.9	9	28.4	68.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.9	0	0.0	5	7.1	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	93.3	139	89.1	3	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	77.2	111	81.7	3	70.9	5.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	9	5.7	4	7.0	22.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	89.1	40	77.2	4	54.1	13.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.6	531	23.4	6	26.4	15.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.6	91	59.9	10	75.1	15.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.9	22	14.0	5	18.1	9.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.6	152	94.4	3	80.8	6.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.4	26	7.1	7	6.9	31.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	90.2	1	104.7	8	70.0	16.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.8	163	46.4	4	54.2	16.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	30	8.5	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.9	66	18.8	4	22.7	18.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	46.4	183	64.9	8	53.5	39.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.4	38	7.3	4	12.1	1.3

JEFFERSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	23	10.6	6	9.6	46.7
Children in Poverty	.	619	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.4	641	14.9	1	23.4	9.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.8	0	0.0	6	28.4	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	15.0	3	13.8	9	7.1	8.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	192	88.1	4	85.7	0.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.8	208	73.5	7	70.9	3.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	12	5.5	4	7.0	16.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.7	34	56.9	6	54.1	0.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.1	776	22.7	6	26.4	5.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	67.5	251	74.7	7	75.1	10.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.3	24	11.0	3	18.1	2.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.9	336	89.1	5	80.86	2.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	56	10.3	9	6.9	40.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	49.6	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.2	245	47.7	5	54.2	13.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	71	13.8	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.1	113	21.6	6	22.7	26.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.3	68	43.7	1	53.5	17.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	8.1	10	8.4	6	12.1	3.2

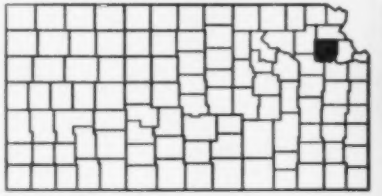
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	15,905	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.5%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$33,460	$32,966
Unemployment	4.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oskaloosa



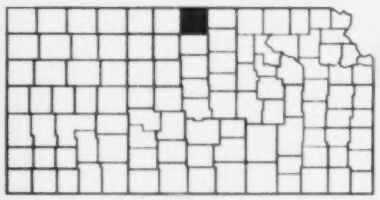
Jefferson County experienced a slight decline in the percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school degree and maintained a rate well below the state average. This county also continued to post a high percentage of births with first trimester prenatal care. As an indicator of economic well-being, the percentage of children eligible for free school meals declined this year and remained one of the lowest rates in the state. There were concerns. The rate of births to single teenage mothers increased sharply this year. Reports of child abuse and neglect also increased in the most recent year.

JEWELL

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,251	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$21,875	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.8%	3.8%

County Seat: Mankato



Jewell County had a number of positive educational accomplishments. The rate of high school graduation was in the top 20 percent statewide. This county also saw an increase in the percentage of its high school graduates who sought further education or training. Jewell County also had a very high rate of Head Start utilization by its eligible children. Concerns for this county included a low level of child care availability, a rate that declined further in the most recent year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.0	3	9.7	5	9.6	144.7
Children in Poverty	.	146	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.0	186	28.8	8	23.4	2.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	110.6	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.6	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.9	28	90.3	2	85.7	5.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.8	27	74.2	7	70.9	10.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.0	1	3.2	2	7.0	18.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	171.4	18	182.6	1	54.1	6.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.0	83	13.7	10	26.4	2.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.4	61	87.1	2	75.1	5.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.0	4	12.9	4	18.1	62.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.2	70	95.9	2	80.8	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.4	3	3.0	4	6.9	27.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	28.9	34	35.2	3	54.2	21.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	8.3	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.6	8	8.4	2	22.7	33.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.6	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.0	.	.	.	12.1	

JOHNSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse — Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.4	199	3.1	1	9.6	8.5
Children in Poverty	.	6723	6.0	1	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	6.5	4663	6.0	1	23.4	7.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.7	19	22.5	7	28.4	43.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.2	32	5.0	6	7.1	4.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	94.0	6108	95.5	1	85.7	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.3	4080	82.3	3	70.9	13.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	356	5.5	4	7.0	2.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.9	233	48.8	7	54.1	0.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.0	27202	33.9	2	26.4	5.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.4	3422	78.9	5	75.1	5.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.7	332	5.2	1	18.1	8.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.2	4337	88.4	6	80.8	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.1	232	1.8	2	6.9	10.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	32.0	25	83.7	8	70.0	161.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.1	3017	25.5	1	54.2	33.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	437	3.7	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.1	2739	22.7	6	22.7	1.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.1	3,025	61.0	5	53.5	79.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.1	1,187	15.3	10	12.1	149.5

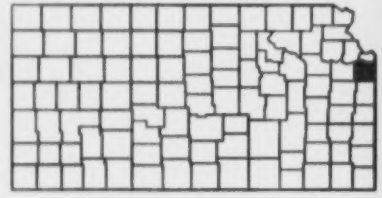
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	355,054	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.1%	88.4%
Black	1.9%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.6%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$50,348	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Olathe



Johnson County experienced a further drop in the percentage of its births that were to single teen mothers to a rate in the top 10 percent of Kansas counties. A high percentage of the births that occurred in this county included first trimester prenatal care. Births to mothers who lacked a high school degree also were very infrequent in Johnson County. Sadly, this county experienced a substantial increase in its teen violent death rate in the most recent year and an increase in the rate of deaths per 1,000 children ages 1 to 14.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

KEARNY

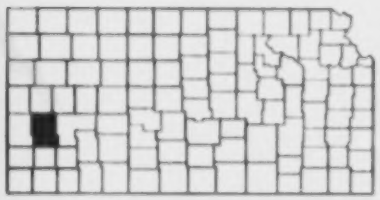
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,027	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	33.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	82.5%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	16.7%	4.8%
Median Family Income	$32,077	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lakin



Kearny County posted an increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. This county also had a substantial reduction in the rate of out-of-home placement, a rate among the lowest in the state. Although still above the state average, the percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school degree declined in the current year. Of concern, juvenile court filings increased in the current year. The percentage of children who were eligible for free school meals increased further, and the county ranked in the bottom 10 percent of Kansas counties.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.9	5	7.9	3	9.6	
Children in Poverty	.	202	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	32.3	410	36.0	10	23.4	11.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.3	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.9	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	65.5	42	67.7	10	85.75	3.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.6	67	76.6	6	70.9	16.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	1	1.6	1	7.0	77.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	50.2	15	50.9	6	54.1	1.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.3	132	13.5	10	26.4	21.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.4	49	72.1	8	75.1	1.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	36.2	17	27.0	9	18.1	25.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.5	68	85.0	7	80.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.0	3	2.0	2	6.9	90.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	244.3	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.4	36	24.4	1	54.2	48.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	6	4.1	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.4	54	36.5	9	22.7	33.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

KINGMAN

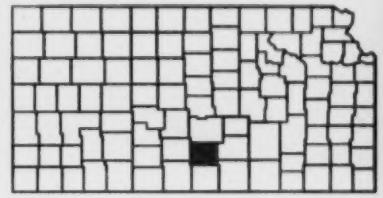
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.1	8	9.0	4	9.6	11.1
Children in Poverty	.	365	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.3	346	19.5	3	23.4	16.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	66.9	1	56.8	9	28.4	15.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.3	2	22.5	10	7.1	117.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.7	72	81.8	7	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.6	64	75.8	6	70.9	12.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	4	4.5	2	7.0	34.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	81.8	33	83.3	3	54.1	1.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.0	276	17.8	9	26.4	27.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.7	76	76.0	6	75.1	9.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.7	15	16.9	6	18.1	23.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.4	100	84.7	8	80.8	1.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.9	4	1.6	2	6.9	67.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	200.5	1	157.6	9	70.0	21.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.3	83	34.4	3	54.2	3.4
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	2.1	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	29.2	65	27.0	7	22.7	7.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	41.9	158	54.1	2	53.5	29.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	14.1	26	7.6	5	12.1	45.9

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,292	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.6%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,491	$32,966
Unemployment (1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.1%	3.8%

County Seat: Kingman



Kingman County enjoyed an increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. This county also posted a high rate of Head Start participation among its eligible children. Kingman County had further reductions in its low rate of children who were eligible for free school meals. Problem areas included a rather low rate of child care availability and a reduction in the percentage of high school graduates who pursued further education or training, although this rate was still slightly above the state average.

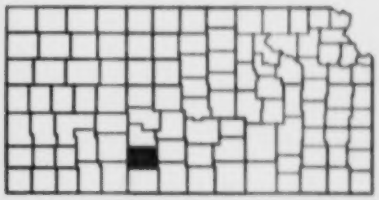
KIOWA

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,660	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.9%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,089	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Greensburg



Kiowa County accomplished yet another exceptional high school graduation rate, one of the best in Kansas. This county also posted substantial gains in the rate of early childhood immunizations, also in the top 10 percent among Kansas counties. Additional good news was found in the reduction of juvenile court filings. Concerns included one of the lowest rates of pregnancies with early prenatal care in Kansas, a rate that declined sharply in the current year. This county also lacked a Head Start program.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.2	5	12.5	8	9.6	138.6
Children in Poverty	.	137	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.7	129	21.8	4	23.4	4.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.4	28	70.0	10	85.7	14.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.5	37	87.9	1	70.9	32.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	0	0.0	1	7.0	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	34.9	144	27.7	3	26.4	20.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.7	40	76.9	6	75.1	5.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.1	6	15.0	5	18.1	17.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.3	52	96.3	1	80.8	3.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.6	8	8.7	9	6.9	32.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	70.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.9	56	61.7	7	54.2	62.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	17	18.7	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.5	14	16.0	3	22.7	32.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

LABETTE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.1	43	15.6	10	9.6	28.9
Children in Poverty	.	1423	23.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.9	1268	28.1	8	23.4	2.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	60.3	3	66.8	9	28.4	10.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.5	0	0.0	5	7.1	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.7	233	84.4	6	85.7	1.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	48.4	171	56.6	10	70.9	17.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	20	7.2	6	7.0	15.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	72.5	90	77.1	4	54.1	6.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.3	960	24.2	5	26.4	7.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.5	228	76.0	6	75.1	4.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.8	60	21.8	8	18.1	11.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.0	300	85.2	7	80.8	5.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.6	54	8.1	8	6.9	5.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	64.5	1	51.1	7	70.0	20.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	84.8	712	112.4	10	54.2	32.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	253	39.9	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	16.7	146	23.1	6	22.7	38.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.5	176	57.5	4	53.5	45.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.2	76	18.3	10	12.1	196.0

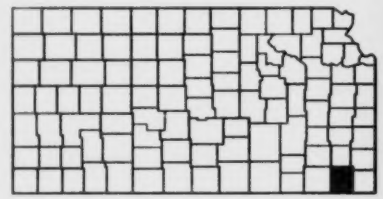
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	23,693	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	91.4%	88.4%
Black	4.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,919	$32,966
Unemployment	5.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oswego



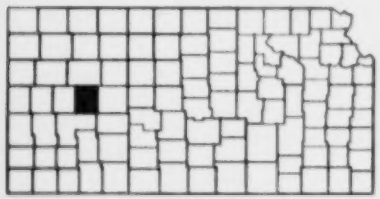
Labette County further increased its rate of Head Start participation among its eligible children. Additional gains occurred in the area of high school graduation, with a 5 percent increase from the base years rates. There were a number of concerns for Labette County, including a rise in the percentage of births that were to single teen mothers and an early childhood immunization rate that continued to lag well below the state average.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,375	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.9%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,506	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.1%	3.8%

County Seat: Dighton



Lane County appeared to fare well in terms of economic well-being. The rate of eligibility for free school meals was below the state average, and the percentage of children in poverty was lower than in most Kansas counties. Despite a slight decline, the high school graduation rate exceeded the state average, and a high percentage of graduates pursued additional training or education. Problem areas included a decline in the percentage of births with early prenatal care and an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings.

LANE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.2	1	3.6	2	9.6	15.0
Children in Poverty	.	71	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.5	96	20.8	4	23.4	12.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	16.8	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.6	21	75.0	9	85.7	13.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.2	24	81.0	4	70.9	22.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.5	1	3.6	2	7.0	41.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.2	78	20.1	8	26.4	17.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.8	38	84.4	3	75.1	0.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.9	2	7.1	2	18.1	20.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.5	45	91.8	4	80.8	5.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.8	2	3.4	4	6.9	20.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	1	666.7	10	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.0	17	28.0	2	54.2	133.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	4.9	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	7.4	21	35.6	9	22.7	384.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.3	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.6	.	.	.	12.1	

LEAVENWORTH

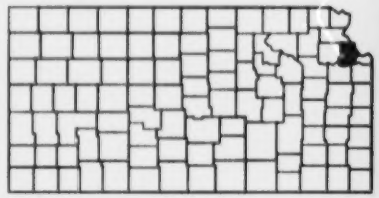
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.3	84	10.0	6	9.6	20.3
Children in Poverty	.	2418	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	15.6	1903	14.8	1	23.4	5.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.9	2	13.8	6	28.4	37.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.9	6	7.1	7	7.1	19.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.5	756	89.8	3	85.7	0.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.1	561	68.3	9	70.9	2.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	52	6.2	5	7.0	7.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	41.1	92	42.4	7	54.1	3.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.8	2293	17.7	9	26.4	12.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.6	534	73.2	7	75.1	2.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.7	118	14.0	5	18.1	10.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.4	730	89.0	5	80.8	8.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.4	96	4.7	6	6.9	13.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	46.9	1	19.8	6	70.0	57.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	29.3	931	47.4	5	54.2	62.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	160	8.1	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.8	374	19.0	4	22.7	8.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.1	408	65.7	9	53.5	104.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.0	97	8.1	5	12.1	61.4

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	64,371	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	83.8%	88.4%
Black	10.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$36,820	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.5%	3.8%

County Seat: Leavenworth



Leavenworth County continued to achieve a level of births with early prenatal care that exceeded the state average. This county also saw a reduction in juvenile court filings and had one of the lowest rates of eligibility for free school meals. The out-of-home placement rate also declined in the current year. Of concern, Leavenworth County had a decline in its early childhood immunization rate, a rather unusual occurrence. This county continued to lag behind the state average in child care availability.

LINCOLN

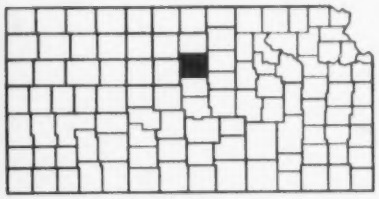
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,653	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.2%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,223	$32,966
Unemployment	3.2%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lincoln



Lincoln County further increased its high rate of births that included prenatal care during the first trimester. This county also saw a rise in the availability of child care. Another positive outcome was a percentage of children eligible for free school meals that was well below the state average. Juvenile court filings also declined. Areas of concern included an increase in the rate of child abuse and neglect reports and a substantial rise in the percentage of births that were to mothers who lacked a high school degree.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.4	3	12.0	8	9.6	252.8
Children in Poverty	.	125	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.6	118	18.8	3	23.4	1.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.8	23	92.0	2	85.7	2.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	78.9	23	78.0	5	70.9	1.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.8	0	0.0	1	7.0	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.0	164	33.8	2	26.4	25.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.3	44	83.0	4	75.1	8.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.5	5	20.0	7	18.1	165.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.3	53	89.8	5	80.8	3.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.5	0	0.0	1	6.9	100.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	98.2	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	25.0	40	49.3	5	54.2	96.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	7	8.6	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.6	13	16.3	3	22.7	28.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

LINN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.0	11	11.0	7	9.6	8.4
Children in Poverty	.	453	20.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.1	507	25.0	6	23.4	11.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	46.2	1	57.1	9	28.4	25.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.7	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.5	90	90.9	2	85.7	12.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.4	82	72.7	7	70.9	44.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	6	6.0	4	7.0	10.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	29.4	10	29.4	8	54.1	84.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	12.8	252	16.5	9	26.4	28.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	67.2	81	57.0	10	75.1	15.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.8	18	18.0	6	18.1	13.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.1	142	88.2	6	80.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.8	5	1.9	2	6.9	31.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	64.0	1	145.7	9	70.0	127.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.2	137	56.5	6	54.2	44.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	24	9.9	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.7	72	29.4	8	22.7	19.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.5	79	55.1	3	53.5	64.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.8	21	12.1	8	12.1	78.9

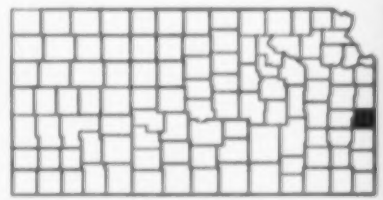
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,254	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.5%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,692	$32,966
Unemployment	9.2%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Mound City



Linn County enjoyed an increase in the percentage of births that included first trimester prenatal care. Additional good news was found in a further reduction of the county's already low rate of out-of-home placements. Problem areas included a further decline of an already low rate of high school graduates pursuing additional education or training. That rate was in the bottom 10 percent for Kansas counties. The rate of child care availability increased but was still below the state average.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

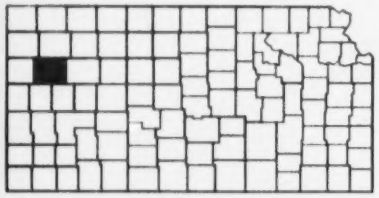
LOGAN

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,081	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.5%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,731	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oakley



Logan County attained a number of positive outcomes. The rate of early childhood immunization increased substantially and was among the best in Kansas. The vast majority of pregnancies in this county included early prenatal care. Educationally, this county had a high rate of Head Start participation among its eligible children and continued to see a high percentage of its young people graduate from high school. On the negative side, the rate of births to single teen mothers doubled in Logan County this year, and reports of child abuse and neglect increased as well.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.0	5	16.1	10	9.6	102.2
Children in Poverty	.	115	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.1	178	26.8	7	23.4	14.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	164.9	10	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.1	1	32.3	10	7.1	425.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.5	28	90.3	2	85.7	0.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.3	23	88.9	1	70.9	34.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.7	1	3.2	2	7.0	12.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	138.0	17	145.2	1	54.1	5.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.9	139	26.6	4	26.4	21.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.8	43	71.7	8	75.1	14.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.6	3	9.7	2	18.1	73.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.0	60	93.8	3	80.8	1.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.0	7	8.3	8	6.9	65.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	2	891.7	10	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.1	48	58.2	7	54.2	313.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	11	13.3	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.2	15	18.5	4	22.7	3.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.7	59	63.6	7	53.5	78.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.3	13	8.0	5	12.1	140.6

LYON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.3	48	10.4	6	9.6	8.6
Children in Poverty	.	1692	18.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.5	1921	30.3	9	23.4	6.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.3	3	42.0	8	28.4	18.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.0	3	6.5	7	7.1	19.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.1	354	79.9	8	85.7	1.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.8	351	81.4	4	70.9	31.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	31	6.7	6	7.0	5.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	47.1	80	49.7	6	54.1	5.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.6	1334	20.9	7	26.4	1.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.5	256	67.7	10	75.1	5.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	25.7	126	27.7	9	18.1	7.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.5	378	78.1	9	80.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.0	84	7.9	8	6.9	32.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	45.9	0	0.0	6	70.0	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.0	981	100.4	10	54.2	85.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	56	5.7	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	43.0	354	36.5	9	22.7	15.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	28.1	117	59.6	4	53.5	112.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.3	25	8.7	6	12.1	18.7

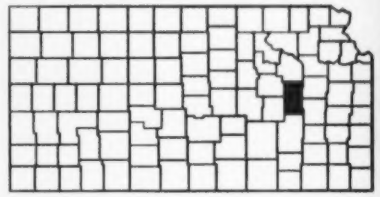
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	34,732	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	89.4%	88.4%
Black	2.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.8%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,262	$32,966
Unemployment	3.8%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Emporia



Lyon County showed significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, celebrating a rate that exceeded the state's overall rate. A noticeable decline in the rate of juvenile court filings also was good news. While there was a decline in the percent of births to single teens, there was an increase in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Also of concern: the county ranked in the worst 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education/training and rate of reported child abuse and neglect cases.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

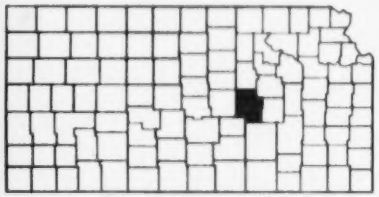
MARION

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	12,888	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.9%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,127	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Marion



Marion County is applauded for its percentage of students graduating from high school, which is well above the state average. Also, with significant improvement in the percentage of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, the county exceeded the state average for this indicator. Of concern, there was a notable increase in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Dramatic increases in the rate of child abuse and neglect reports as well as juvenile court filings also warrant attention.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.8	13	8.6	4	9.6	47.6
Children in Poverty	.	396	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.1	462	17.3	2	23.4	14.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.9	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.8	1	6.6	7	7.1	132.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.2	127	85.2	5	85.7	2.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.4	128	79.2	5	70.9	25.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.4	11	7.3	6	7.0	65.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	92.2	45	94.1	2	54.1	2.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.7	542	26.4	4	26.4	1.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.2	122	68.5	9	75.1	13.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.8	30	19.9	7	18.1	34.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.5	178	94.2	3	80.8	7.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.6	17	5.1	6	6.9	11.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	73.8	1	115.6	8	70.0	56.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	34.3	211	66.0	7	54.2	92.4
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	36	11.3	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	16.3	75	23.5	6	22.7	44.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	24.4	130	73.1	10	53.5	199.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.1	38	7.8	5	12.1	92.1

MARSHALL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	6	5.0	2	9.6	37.8
Children in Poverty	.	473	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.0	441	16.0	1	23.4	19.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.9	1	8.4	8	7.1	117.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.0	110	92.4	1	85.7	11.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.4	98	71.2	8	70.9	26.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.4	9	7.6	7	7.0	70.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	38.4	20	41.5	7	54.1	7.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	13.7	263	13.3	10	26.4	2.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.6	157	79.7	5	75.1	1.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.5	13	10.9	3	18.1	19.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.6	197	90.8	5	80.8	3.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.2	10	3.3	4	6.9	20.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	62.8	1	148.8	9	70.0	137.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.3	105	35.6	3	54.2	67.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	3.4	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.5	21	7.2	1	22.7	31.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.3	266	56.5	3	53.5	86.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.3	39	6.4	4	12.1	181.1

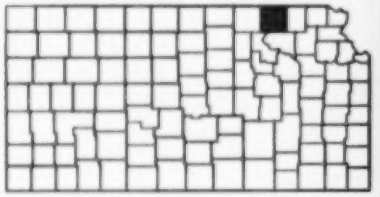
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	11,705	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,249	$32,966
Unemployment	2.9%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Marysville



Marshall County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of births with early prenatal care, percent of children approved for free school meals, and rate of juvenile court filings. Other good news were the significant improvement in the percent of births to single teens and percent of births to mothers with less than a high school education. Also, Marshall County celebrated a high graduation rate that far exceeded the state average. Of concern, the county ranked in the worst 10 percent of Kansas counties for its child care availability rate. Dramatic increases in the percent of low-birth-weight babies and rate of reported child abuse and neglect cases warrant attention.

A project of *for Children, Inc.*

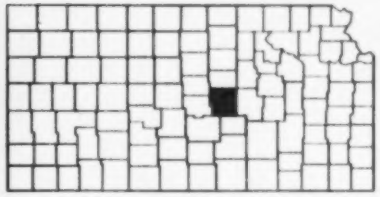
McPHERSON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	27,268	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.2%	88.4%
Black	0.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,482	$32,966
Unemployment	2.8%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: McPherson



McPherson County celebrated increases in the percent of births with early prenatal care, percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, and percent of students graduating from high school. A significant decline in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that economic conditions are improving. Significant increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control raise concerns. Also troubling was the 47 percent increase in percent of births to single teens.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	36	9.7	5	9.6	47.3
Children in Poverty	.	825	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	13.3	566	10.7	1	23.4	19.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.4	3	52.7	8	28.4	203.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.9	3	8.1	8	7.1	2.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.0	326	87.9	5	85.7	3.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	71.8	237	74.8	6	70.9	4.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.0	24	6.5	5	7.0	27.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	64.3	60	66.4	5	54.1	3.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.1	1154	22.5	7	26.4	2.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.4	308	78.6	5	75.1	0.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.8	65	17.5	6	18.1	10.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.4	392	91.2	4	80.8	5.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.4	22	2.8	3	6.9	17.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	92.8	1	54.0	7	70.0	41.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	40.5	397	51.8	5	54.2	28.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	20	2.6	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.4	143	18.7	4	22.7	79.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	23.5	88	69.8	9	53.5	196.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.8	10	3.5	2	12.1	23.5

MEADE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.0	6	9.4	5	9.6	33.7
Children in Poverty	.	143	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.1	113	18.1	2	23.4	14.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.8	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	15.2	2	31.3	10	7.1	105.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	75.8	50	82.0	7	85.7	8.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.6	45	85.4	2	70.9	28.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	3	4.7	3	7.0	26.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.6	136	16.8	9	26.4	9.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.2	29	78.4	5	75.1	0.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	23.5	13	20.3	8	18.1	13.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.8	37	90.2	5	80.8	2.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.2	3	2.4	3	6.9	44.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	144.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.9	36	29.1	2	54.2	38.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	0.8	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.6	42	34.0	8	22.7	38.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

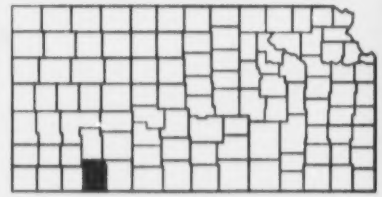
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,247	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.7%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,857	$32,966
Unemployment	2.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Meade



Meade County showed dramatic improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 and ranked in the best 20 percent of Kansas counties for this indicator. More good news included noticeable declines in the percent of low-birth-weight babies and percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Of concern, Meade County has yet to implement a Head Start program for eligible children, and the child care availability rate has worsened. Increases in the percent of births to single teens and the rate of juvenile court filings may also deserve some attention.

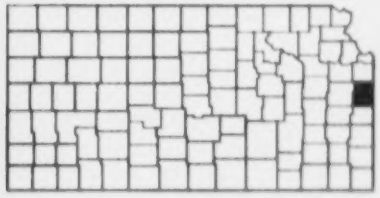
MIAMI

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	23,466	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.7%	88.4%
Black	2.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$34,424	$32,966
Unemployment	3.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Paola



Miami County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its high percentage of births with early prenatal care. The county also is applauded for showing improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, the rate of child care availability, and percent of students graduating from high school. A dramatic increase in percent of low-birth-weight babies raises concerns. Also, increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control warrant attention. Sadly, there was a significant increase in the teen violent death rate.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.5	30	8.2	4	9.6	9.6
Children in Poverty	.	907	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.7	958	19.3	3	23.4	19
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	26.0	0	0.0	6	28.4	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.4	2	5.5	6	7.1	26.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	345	94.5	1	85.7	26.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.7	207	70.8	8	70.9	27.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	31	8.5	8	7.0	41.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.4	40	48.9	7	54.1	11.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.0	1423	29.1	3	26.4	26.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.8	199	68.6	9	75.1	9.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.4	52	14.2	5	18.1	14.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.2	290	85.3	7	80.8	5.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.3	24	3.0	4	6.9	9.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	61.8	5	234.4	9	70.0	235.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.0	403	52.8	6	54.2	17.4
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	61	8.0	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	16.0	148	19.2	4	22.7	19.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.1	262	54.2	2	53.5	54.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.6	75	13.1	9	12.1	133.8

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MITCHELL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.3	7	10.9	7	9.6	73.0
Children in Poverty	.	229	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.8	404	22.7	5	23.4	4.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	43.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	1	15.6	9	7.1	171.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.1	54	84.4	6	85.7	3.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.4	64	81.0	4	70.9	34.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	1	1.6	1	7.0	74.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.2	346	30.6	3	26.4	2.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.1	84	84.8	3	75.1	7.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.5	7	10.9	3	18.1	15.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.9	99	93.4	3	80.85	0.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.9	5	2.6	3	6.94	56.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	147.4	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.1	55	29.5	2	54.22	83.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	2.1	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.0	32	17.4	3	22.7	2.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.0	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.5	.	.	.	12.1	

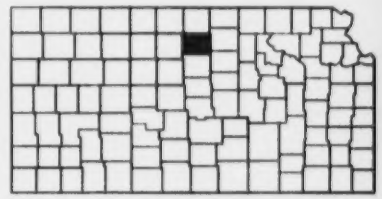
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,203	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.6%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,502	$32,966
Unemployment	2.0%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Beloit



Mitchell County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of low-birth-weight babies. The county also made great strides in its percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Efforts to promote high school completion and post-secondary education can be seen by the county's high rates for these two indicators, which exceed the state average. Of concern this past year is the fact that the county's percent of births with early prenatal care and percent of births to single teens were worse than the state average. Also troubling, there was an increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals, yet a Head Start program remains unavailable for eligible children.

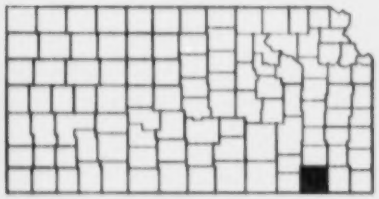
MONTGOMERY

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	38,816	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	89.2%	88.4%
Black	6.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,063	$32,966
Unemployment	5.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Independence



Montgomery County should be applauded for its dramatic improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 and rate of juvenile court filings. Improvement also can be seen in the Head Start participation rate. Significant increases in the percent of youth who have used alcohol or other drugs are troubling. With 16 percent of births to single teens and a high school graduation rate of 75 percent, the county was rated in the worst 10 percent of Kansas counties for these indicators. In addition, Montgomery County had one of the highest rates of confirmed and substantiated child abuse and neglect cases, which demands some attention.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.7	74	16.1	10	9.6	17.6
Children in Poverty	.	2413	24.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.7	2022	29.9	9	23.4	12.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.1	2	28.0	7	28.4	73.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.2	3	6.5	7	7.1	9.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.8	403	87.8	5	85.7	1.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	43.0	256	63.1	10	70.9	46.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	32	7.0	6	7.0	3.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	51.2	136	54.4	6	54.1	6.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.6	1413	22.3	7	26.4	1.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.5	287	72.7	8	75.1	10.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.9	109	23.7	8	18.1	3.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	75.7	395	75.1	10	80.8	0.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.5	107	10.2	9	6.9	20.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	62.9	1	33.5	6	70.0	46.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	68.2	765	76.7	9	54.2	12.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	312	31.3	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.5	168	17.0	3	22.7	36.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.8	543	61.5	6	53.5	87.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.0	176	12.5	9	12.1	109.1

MORRIS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.1	4	5.8	2	9.6	4.5
Children in Poverty	.	310	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.2	253	23.3	5	23.4	11.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.1	1	86.3	10	28.4	160.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.3	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.2	61	88.4	4	85.7	2.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.2	60	82.7	3	70.9	24.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.3	8	11.6	9	7.0	119.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.9	212	21.4	7	26.4	13.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.3	64	76.2	6	75.1	3.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.4	9	13.0	4	18.13	20.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	92.4	84	86.6	7	80.8	6.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.7	10	6.3	7	6.9	6.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	50.2	1	237.6	10	70.0	171.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	60.3	132	83.5	9	54.2	38.4
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	6.3	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.5	71	45.7	10	22.7	133.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.0	112	63.8	8	53.5	93.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.7	32	10.4	7	12.1	121.3

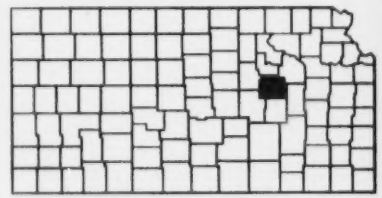
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,198	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.6%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,437	$32,966
Unemployment	3.8%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Council Grove



Morris County ranked in the best 20 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of births to single teens. Significant improvements in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree and percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 also were achieved. A noticeable decline in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that economic conditions are improving. The county suffered drastic increases in the percent of low-birth-weight babies as well as in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control. A Head Start program has yet to be implemented for eligible children.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

MORTON

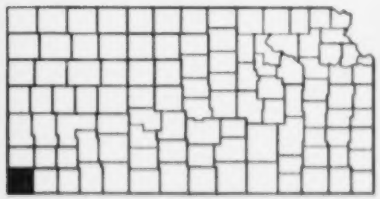
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,480	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	88.0%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,785	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Elkhart



Morton County should be applauded for its rank in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percentage of low-birth-weight babies and rate of confirmed and substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect. Additional good news included significant improvement in the child care availability rate and percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Also, the county had no reports of infant mortality, childhood deaths, or teen violent deaths. Notable increases in juvenile court filings, births to single teens, and reports of child abuse and neglect may warrant attention. In Morton County, the percent of children approved for free school meals far exceeds the state average, yet a Head Start program remains unavailable.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.5	4	8.9	4	9.6	36.3
Children in Poverty	.	182	17.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.4	238	31.2	9	23.4	18.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	68.6	32	72.7	9	85.7	6.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.4	37	70.3	8	70.9	22.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	1	2.2	1	7.0	52.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.6	218	30.7	3	26.4	35.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.6	36	80.0	4	75.1	5.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.9	11	24.4	9	18.1	6.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.7	45	83.3	8	80.8	3.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.6	2	1.7	2	6.9	51.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	221.4	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.8	29	26.4	2	54.2	201.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	0.9	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.1	24	21.5	5	22.7	77.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	51.1	74	43.4	1	53.5	15.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	21	16.2	10	12.1	

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NEMAHA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.9	10	5.9	2	9.6	52.8
Children in Poverty	.	413	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	18.4	345	16.9	2	23.4	8.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.9	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	12.9	3	17.8	9	7.1	17.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.8	150	88.8	4	85.7	2.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.5	103	92.2	1	70.9	25.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	11	6.5	6	7.0	8.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	73.4	36	78.7	4	54.1	7.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.2	521	27.2	4	26.4	8.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.9	114	78.1	5	75.1	1.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.0	17	10.1	2	18.1	100.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.0	146	93.0	4	80.8	3.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.7	8	2.7	3	6.9	61.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	85.4	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.2	95	32.1	2	54.2	59.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	21	7.1	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	7.0	55	18.9	4	22.7	130.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.8	210	62.4	7	53.5	84.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	1.7	23	4.2	2	12.1	146.6

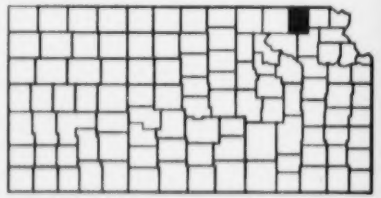
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,446	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.2%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,786	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Seneca



Nemaha County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Improvements in Head Start participation and child care availability also were good news. Significant increases in the percent of births to single teens and births to mothers with less than a high school education raise concerns. The county also suffered from increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

NEOSHO

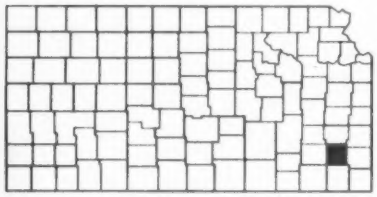
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	17,035	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.8%	88.4%
Black	1.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,613	$32,966
Unemployment	4.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Erie



Neosho County experienced a significant decline in the juvenile court filing rate, which placed the county in the best 10 percent in Kansas. Also worth celebrating were increases in the high school graduation rate and the rate of graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training. Remarkable improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 places the county closer to the state average. There was a substantial increase in the percent of low-birth-weight babies which raises concerns. Also, a noticeable increase in the rate of child abuse and neglect reports is noted.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.8	13	6.6	3	9.6	39.0
Children in Poverty	.	964	21.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.5	933	27.9	8	23.4	2.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	47.1	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.0	0	0.0	5	7.1	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.3	177	89.8	2	85.7	4.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	32.3	123	61.7	10	70.9	90.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	16	8.1	8	7.0	32.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.2	48	58.9	6	54.1	4.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.7	823	28.2	3	26.4	13.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.5	172	84.3	3	75.1	7.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.4	40	20.3	8	18.1	4.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.9	204	85.4	7	80.8	8.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.9	48	9.9	9	6.9	11.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	64.5	1	75.9	7	70.0	17.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	56.1	349	76.7	9	54.2	36.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	144	31.6	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.2	35	7.7	1	22.7	70.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.0	128	54.2	2	53.5	54.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.1	18	6.5	4	12.1	29.3

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NESS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.9	1	2.6	1	9.6	62.7
Children in Poverty	.	108	10.0	1	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.8	133	18.8	3	23.4	11.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.6	34	87.2	5	85.7	4.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.0	30	81.5	3	70.9	19.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.9	3	7.7	7	7.0	11.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	13.7	128	20.5	8	26.4	49.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.8	65	90.3	1	75.1	5.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.3	1	2.6	1	18.1	82.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.8	72	96.0	1	80.8	0.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.0	4	4.2	5	6.9	112.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	103.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.4	16	16.8	1	54.2	400.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	6.7	4	4.3	1	22.7	36.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	44.5	114	31.1	1	53.5	20.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	13	7.9	5	12.1	

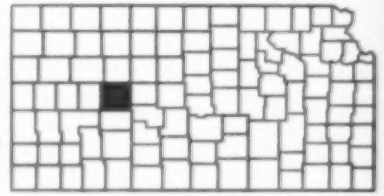
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,033	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.2%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,229	$32,966
Unemployment	3.7%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ness City



Ness County celebrated a ranking in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for several indicators: children in poverty, births to single teens, births to mothers with less than a high school degree, high school completion, post-secondary education and training, juvenile court filings, and areas of child abuse and neglect. The county also deserves credit for its improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. There was a noticeable increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals; however, the county has yet to offer a Head Start program. Even though Ness County received the best rank for its rate of reported cases of child abuse and neglect, the dramatic increase in reports this past year raises concerns.

A project ... on for Children, Inc.

NORTON

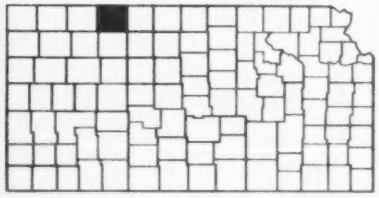
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,947	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.7%	88.4%
Black	2.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,972	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Norton



Norton County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following indicators: births to single teens, births to mothers with less than a high school education, and high school graduation. Also worth celebrating was the remarkable improvement seen in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Of concern were increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control. Also, there was a significant increase in the percent of low-birth-weight babies, placing the county in the worst 10 percent.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.9	1	2.0	1	9.6	79.9
Children in Poverty	.	201	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.6	225	21.6	4	23.4	4.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.4	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.3	44	88.0	5	85.7	0.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	52.8	60	87.1	2	70.9	65.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.8	6	12.0	10	7.0	150.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	86.5	27	87.9	3	54.1	1.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.2	256	31.2	2	26.4	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.6	77	77.0	6	75.1	4.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.6	3	6.0	1	18.1	29.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.8	100	98.0	1	80.8	12.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.2	9	6.3	7	6.9	94.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	430.8	1	225.1	9	70.0	47.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.2	98	72.9	8	54.2	61.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	13	9.7	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.8	44	32.6	8	22.7	13.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.6	100	61.8	6	53.5	83.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.0	26	10.0	7	12.1	68.0

OSAGE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.1	16	8.3	4	9.6	8.1
Children in Poverty	.	657	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.7	747	22.3	5	23.4	2.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.4	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.2	1	5.2	6	7.1	15.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	91.2	174	91.1	2	85.7	0.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.1	175	83.9	2	70.9	32.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	10	5.2	3	7.0	23.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	29.5	20	29.5	8	54.1	0.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.2	797	25.4	5	26.4	10.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	64.9	157	69.5	9	75.1	7.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.0	21	10.9	3	18.1	8.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.1	226	88.6	6	80.8	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.6	47	9.1	9	6.9	151.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	102.7	2	156.1	9	70.0	52.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	54.1	190	39.0	4	54.2	27.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	26	5.3	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.4	109	22.0	6	22.7	43.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.5	286	61.6	6	53.5	102.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.9	66	8.8	6	12.1	82.0

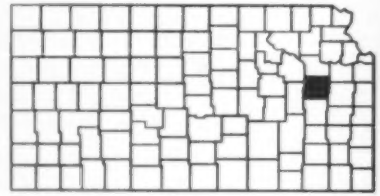
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	15,248	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.8%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,960	$32,966
Unemployment	6.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lyndon



Osage County showed significant improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Other good news included declines in the percent of births to single teens and births to mothers with less than a high school degree. In addition, there was a noticeable decline in the percent of low-birth-weight babies. Increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control raise concerns. Also, Osage County experienced a dramatic increase in out-of-home placements.

...sas Action for Children, Inc.

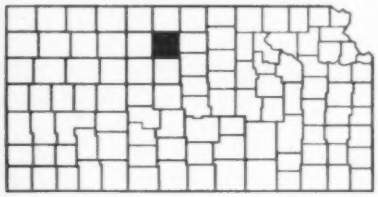
OSBORNE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,867	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$23,500	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Osborne



Osborne County deserves accolades for its 100 percent high school graduation rate. The county celebrated a rank in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for this indicator as well as the following indicators: births with early prenatal care, high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education/training, and juvenile court filings. The county can also boast about its remarkable improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Of concern, is the increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals, and the county has yet to offer a Head Start program. Also, with its decline in child care availability, Osborne County's rate fell below the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.3	4	11.1	7	9.6	52.1
Children in Poverty	.	184	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.9	120	23.1	5	23.4	5.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	190.0	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	94.5	33	94.3	1	85.7	0.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.8	26	81.3	4	70.9	45.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	4	11.1	9	7.0	87.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.0	162	24.2	5	26.4	3.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.5	30	96.8	1	75.1	13.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.3	6	16.7	6	18.1	35.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.5	31	100.0	1	80.8	9.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.3	2	1.9	2	6.9	17.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	225.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	34.9	61	56.9	7	54.2	63.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	4.7	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.7	6	5.7	1	22.7	46.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.5	.	.	.	12.1	

OTTAWA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.9	5	8.2	4	9.6	39.8
Children in Poverty	.	199	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.7	264	19.6	4	23.4	5.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.1	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.1	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.9	54	88.5	4	85.7	4.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.7	51	78.4	5	70.9	7.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.6	8	13.1	10	7.0	51.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	15	87.8	3	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.8	252	25.3	5	26.4	8.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.5	75	79.8	4	75.1	1.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.5	8	13.1	4	18.1	25.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.2	94	94.9	2	80.8	14.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.4	9	5.7	6	6.9	22.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	57.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	25.4	133	87.2	9	54.2	243.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	33	21.6	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.6	42	27.6	7	22.7	56.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

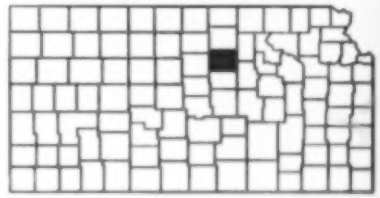
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,634	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.9%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,410	$32,966
Unemployment	3.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Minneapolis



Ottawa County should be proud of its high school graduation rate, which far exceeded the state average. Other good news included the county's implementation of a Head Start program. A decline in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that economic conditions are improving. Of concern were significant increases in the percent of low-birth-weight babies as well as in the percent of births to single teens and to mothers with less than a high school education. Also, the county experienced a substantial increase in reports of child abuse and neglect.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

PAWNEE

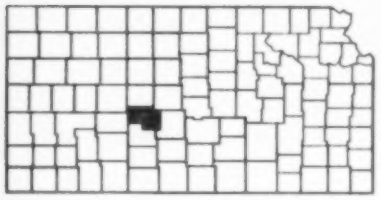
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,555	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.3%	88.4%
Black	3.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,759	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Larned



Pawnee County ranked in the top 10 percent of Kansas counties for its child care availability rate. With significant improvement for the following indicators, the county ranked in the best 20 percent: kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, low-birth-weight babies, Head Start participation, and drug use among youths. Dramatic increases in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school education and the percent of children approved for free school meals raise concerns. Child abuse and neglect reports also increased substantially.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.8	10	13.3	9	9.6	3.1
Children in Poverty	.	246	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.1	448	27.7	7	23.4	14.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.4	1	75.4	9	28.4	77.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	21.2	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.6	63	85.1	6	85.7	0.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	53.4	61	83.8	2	70.9	56.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	3	4.0	2	7.0	44.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	84.8	18	92.5	2	54.1	9.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.9	377	34.3	1	26.4	6.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.1	79	76.0	7	75.1	2.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.0	16	21.3	8	18.1	33.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.4	104	86.0	7	80.8	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.4	21	11.2	10	6.9	7.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	70.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	28.0	148	80.5	9	54.2	187.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	1.6	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	31.3	53	29.6	8	22.7	5.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.6	87	60.6	5	53.5	52.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.8	10	4.6	2	12.1	21.7

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PHILLIPS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.8	2	3.6	2	9.6	38.6
Children in Poverty	.	193	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.5	266	23.5	5	23.4	-4.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	88.8	10	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.8	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.1	45	81.8	7	85.7	-7.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.6	53	68.4	9	70.9	18.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.6	2	3.6	2	7.0	-36.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	98.0	20	100.1	2	54.1	2.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.3	317	33.6	2	26.4	14.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.6	70	79.5	5	75.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.8	3	5.4	1	18.1	58.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.1	88	95.7	2	80.8	-0.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.8	8	5.3	6	6.9	-9.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	52.3	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	31.2	85	56.4	6	54.2	-80.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	13	8.6	6	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	14.3	19	12.9	2	22.7	9.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.6	45	70.3	10	53.5	-174.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.4	4	2.7	1	12.1	-12.3

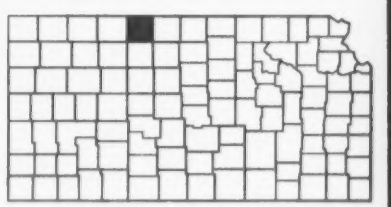
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,590	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,541	$32,966
Unemployment	3.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Phillipsburg



Phillips County ranks in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its low rate of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Showing significant improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, the county climbed closer to the state average. A notable increase in the child care availability rate was more good news. While the county continued to do better than 90 percent of other Kansas counties for reported drug use among youth, it ranked in the bottom 10 percent for alcohol use among youth. A substantial increase in reports of child abuse and neglect was also seen. Phillips County did worse than the state average in the percent of births with early prenatal care.

A project of Kansas Acti *Inc.*

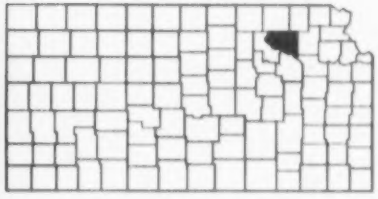
POTTAWATOMIE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	16,128	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.9%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,932	$32,966
Unemployment	3.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Westmoreland



Pottawatomie County should take pride in being ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following indicators: births to single teens, births to mothers with less than a high school degree, children approved for free school meals, and juvenile court filings. The county also made great strides in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. A considerable increase in the percent of low-birth-weight babies raises concerns. Also, a noticeable increase in the rate of child abuse and neglect reports is noted.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.0	8	3.0	1	9.6	40.2
Children in Poverty	.	679	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.5	542	14.4	1	23.4	12.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	24.8	2	49.2	8	28.4	98.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.2	1	3.8	6	7.1	39.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.3	237	89.1	3	85.7	3.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.0	197	87.1	2	70.9	30.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	17	6.4	5	7.0	14.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.4	37	56.9	6	54.1	10.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.9	842	22.7	6	26.4	1.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.8	227	75.9	7	75.1	5.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.1	17	6.4	1	18.1	5.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.2	299	92.0	4	80.8	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.8	8	1.4	2	6.9	26.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	60.0	0	0.0	6	70.0	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.0	260	46.3	4	54.2	40.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	66	11.7	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	11.7	42	7.4	1	22.7	37.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.5	81	56.8	3	53.5	60.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.6	11	6.0	3	12.1	30.8

PRATT

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	10	9.2	5	9.6	27.1
Children in Poverty	.	351	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.5	377	21.0	4	23.4	7.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	31.3	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.0	1	9.2	8	7.1	1.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.7	81	75.0	9	85.7	14.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.7	69	69.9	8	70.9	21.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	7	6.4	5	7.0	7.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.9	30	84.4	3	54.1	11.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.1	419	25.6	5	26.4	5.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.3	108	86.4	2	75.1	3.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.9	13	11.9	3	18.1	19.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.3	125	82.8	8	80.8	5.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.4	18	6.5	7	6.9	46.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	78.7	1	123.1	8	70.0	56.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.9	182	69.5	8	54.2	111.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	24	9.2	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.6	130	49.8	10	22.7	87.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.9	139	61.0	5	53.5	103.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.4	37	10.3	7	12.1	60.2

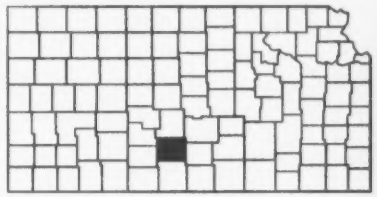
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	9,702	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.8%	88.4%
Black	1.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,481	$32,966
Unemployment	2.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Pratt



Pratt County experienced a significant increase in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, which places the county's rate closer to the state average. Also promising was an increase in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training and a decline in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Also, the county's Head Start participation rate far exceeded the state average. A noticeable increase in the percent of births to single teens and a decline in the percent of births with prenatal care raise concerns. All areas of Social Behavior & Social Control also worsened.

A project of Kansas A *n, Inc.*

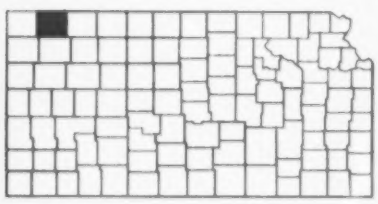
RAWLINS

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,404	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,818	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Atwood



Rawlins County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following rates: Head Start participation, out-of-home placements, and juvenile court filings. Other good news was the remarkable increase in the child care availability rate. Despite a slight decline in the high school graduation rate, the county's rate was well above the state average. There was a significant increase in the percent of youth who reported recently drinking alcohol, which causes concern. Also, reports of child abuse and neglect increased.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.3	1	3.4	2	9.6	52.8
Children in Poverty	.	118	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.1	152	27.7	8	23.4	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	59.2	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.3	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.8	24	82.8	7	85.7	7.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.2	19	69.2	8	70.9	7.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	3	10.3	9	7.0	77.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	130.8	17	137.7	1	54.1	5.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.6	184	31.8	2	26.4	104.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.6	32	78.0	6	75.1	8.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.3	2	6.9	2	18.1	33.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.5	41	95.3	2	80.8	1.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.8	0	0.0	1	6.9	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	194.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.6	31	36.0	3	54.2	164.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	3.5	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.7	6	7.1	1	22.7	54.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	28.7	50	60.6	5	53.5	110.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.9	6	4.8	3	12.1	2.9

RENO

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.4	90	10.7	6	9.6	5.9
Children in Poverty	.	3134	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.3	2757	24.1	6	23.4	8.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.3	4	32.9	7	28.4	1.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.8	5	6.0	7	7.1	32.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.3	663	79.3	8	85.7	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.6	471	68.5	9	70.9	2.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	68	8.1	8	7.0	20.2
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.3	167	59.5	5	54.1	20.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.7	2806	25.9	4	26.4	5.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.8	455	72.3	8	75.1	0.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	21.4	153	18.3	7	18.1	14.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.9	629	77.1	9	80.8	3.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.3	253	14.2	10	6.9	25.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	74.0	2	40.9	6	70.0	44.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.3	1265	75.2	9	54.2	62.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	176	10.5	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.2	698	41.5	10	22.7	47.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	26.5	549	61.9	7	53.5	133.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.8	198	13.7	9	12.1	184.1

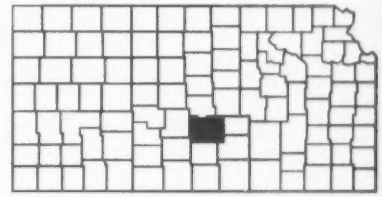
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	62,389	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.4%	88.4%
Black	2.7%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.0%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,549	$32,966
Unemployment	3.9%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hutchinson



Reno County can be proud that its Head Start participation rate is better than the state average. Other good news included declines in the percent of births to single teens and percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Also, a decline in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that economic conditions are improving. Further efforts are encouraged toward fully immunizing children by age 2. Of concern, a substantially high percentage of newborns were considered low-birth-weight babies. Increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control were also troubling.

REPUBLIC

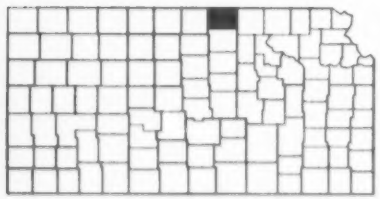
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,482	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.4%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,637	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Belleville



Republic County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its rates in child care availability, out-of-home placements, and youth who reported using illicit drugs. The county can be applauded for showing remarkable improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Continued efforts to promote high school graduation and post-secondary education and training are also recognized. A dramatic increase in the percent of youth who reported drinking alcohol may warrant some attention. Also, a significantly high percentage of low-birth-weight babies raises concerns.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	6	8.8	4	9.6	22.0
Children in Poverty	.	232	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.0	262	24.8	6	23.4	10.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	37.3	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.0	57	83.8	6	85.7	4.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	49.6	36	72.9	7	70.9	47.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.4	8	11.8	10	7.0	388.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	69.2	17	75.0	4	54.1	8.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.5	307	34.6	1	26.4	21.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.6	82	87.2	2	75.1	4.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.5	8	11.8	3	18.1	18.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.2	94	93.1	3	80.8	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	1	0.7	1	6.9	90.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	56.5	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.7	50	35.9	3	54.2	15.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	8	5.7	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.6	35	25.5	7	22.7	37.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.0	88	64.0	8	53.5	106.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	5	2.1	1	12.1	

RICE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.4	11	8.5	4	9.6	9.2
Children in Poverty	.	560	20.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.7	542	27.6	7	23.4	4.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	18.9	1	48.6	8	28.4	157.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.1	2	15.5	9	7.1	54.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.7	98	76.0	8	85.7	7.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.0	84	76.0	6	70.9	24.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	14	10.9	9	7.0	65.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	22.6	18	24.3	8	54.1	7.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.8	271	15.1	10	26.4	15.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.0	96	68.1	10	75.1	14.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.3	19	14.7	5	18.1	3.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.5	141	89.2	5	80.8	0.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.9	24	8.7	8	6.9	20.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	164.0	1	155.4	9	70.0	5.2
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	60.9	199	72.8	8	54.2	19.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	3.7	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21.2	95	35.1	9	22.7	65.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	27.0	96	68.2	9	53.5	52.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.1	29	9.7	6	12.1	134.1

Percent Change Over Time: Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100

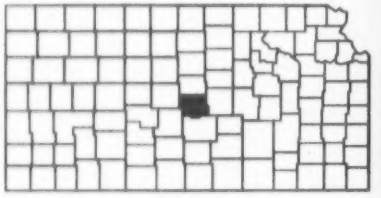
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,610	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	95.6%	88.4%
Black	1.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,406	$32,966
Unemployment	4.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lyons



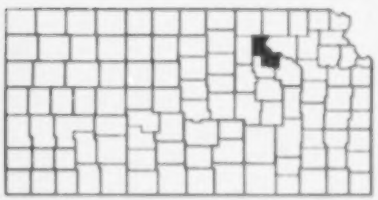
Rice County showed significant improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Other good news included an increase in the Head Start participation rate and a decline in the percent of births to single teens. Notable increases in all areas of Social Behavior and Social Control raise concerns. With a dramatic decline in its child care availability rate, Rice County moves further away from achieving the state average.

RILEY

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	67,139	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.5%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	81.6%	88.4%
Black	10.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,511	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.0%	3.8%

County Seat: Manhattan



Riley County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. The county also can be proud of its improvement in the percent of births with early prenatal care and in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. A decline in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that economic conditions are improving. Sadly, Riley County had significant increases in the childhood death rate as well as the teen violent death rate. The county also recorded a noticeable increase in the juvenile court filing rate.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.1	36	4.0	2	9.6	1.9
Children in Poverty	.	2418	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.0	1284	17.8	2	23.4	11.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.6	5	46.4	8	28.4	196.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.2	1	1.1	5	7.1	73.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.0	794	87.8	5	85.7	5.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.8	370	72.8	7	70.9	3.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	56	6.2	5	7.0	10.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	42.6	150	47.2	7	54.1	10.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.3	2052	21.0	7	26.45	3.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.4	404	80.6	4	75.1	7.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.6	54	6.0	1	18.1	20.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.8	501	88.7	6	80.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.9	66	3.6	4	6.9	8.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	19.6	4	55.2	7	70.0	182.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.9	599	39.1	4	54.2	18.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	105	6.9	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.5	206	13.8	2	22.7	31.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.3	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	20.9	.	.	.	12.1	

ROOKS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100+)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	8	13.3	9	9.6	103.2
Children in Poverty	.	252	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.5	275	23.1	5	23.4	2.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.5	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	12.5	1	16.7	9	7.1	33.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	91.9	54	90.0	2	85.7	2.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.0	62	85.4	2	70.9	31.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.1	3	5.0	3	7.0	38.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.7	314	32.3	2	26.4	9.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.7	76	87.4	2	75.1	7.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.8	7	11.7	3	18.1	32.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.1	87	92.6	4	80.8	3.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.7	6	3.9	5	6.9	44.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	54.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.9	85	55.6	6	54.2	21.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	10	6.5	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.0	31	20.7	5	22.7	38.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	48.8	118	47.2	1	53.5	3.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.0	24	11.0	7	12.1	55.6

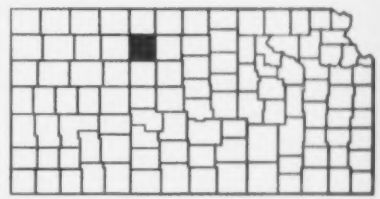
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,039	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.7%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,601	$32,966
Unemployment	3.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Stockton



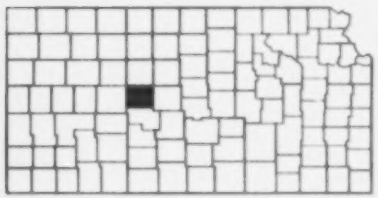
Rooks County celebrated a year free from childhood deaths as well as teen violent deaths. With a significant increase in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, the county far exceeded the state average. Rooks County also showed noticeable improvement in its percent of low-birth-weight babies. Of concern, a Head Start program has yet to be implemented. The significantly high percentage of births to single teens also is troubling.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,842	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.8%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.8%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,489	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.4%	3.8%

County Seat: La Crosse



Rush County celebrated good news in all areas of Physical Health & Safety. Significant improvement also can be seen in Head Start participation and child care availability rates. While there were no births to single teens, there was a dramatic increase in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. A substantial increase in the juvenile court filing rate also raises concerns. Rush County experienced a noticeable increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals, which may indicate economic conditions are worsening.

RUSH

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.5	0	0.0	1	9.6	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	126	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.3	200	28.4	8	23.4	7.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	31.1	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.1	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.3	28	93.3	1	85.7	5.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.3	35	85.7	2	70.9	44.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	0	0.0	1	7.0	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	41.9	10	70.1	4	54.1	67.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.1	168	34.3	1	26.4	7.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.1	43	75.4	7	75.1	11.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.8	5	16.7	6	18.1	69.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.0	57	95.0	2	80.8	3.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.7	0	0.0	1	6.9	100
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	207.9	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.1	57	72.5	8	54.2	100.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	4	5.1	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.1	29	38.0	9	22.7	214.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	43.9	38	62.4	7	53.5	42.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	13.1	2	2.0	1	12.1	85.0

RUSSELL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.9	6	6.7	3	9.6	1.8
Children in Poverty	.	293	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.2	354	26.2	7	23.4	3.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	14.5	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.8	82	92.1	1	85.7	6.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.1	52	71.6	7	70.9	32.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.2	7	7.9	7	7.0	4.6
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	45.8	15	48.6	7	54.1	6.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.8	347	29.9	3	26.4	3.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.7	77	86.5	2	75.1	11.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.0	16	18.0	6	18.15	12.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.1	89	87.3	7	80.8	6.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.3	5	2.7	3	6.9	57.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	175.6	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	35.1	159	88.3	10	54.2	151.5
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	33	18.3	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.4	69	38.5	9	22.7	58.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.8	136	56.1	3	53.5	52.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.2	23	7.5	5	12.1	4.9

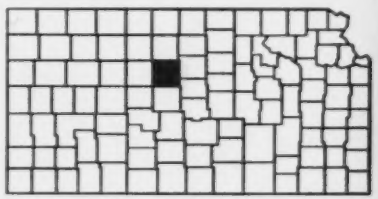
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,835	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.1%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.4%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$26,508	$32,966
Unemployment	3.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Russell



Russell County made great strides in improving the percent of children fully immunized by age 2. The county also can celebrate good news in all other areas of Physical Health & Safety as well. There was a noticeable increase in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training, which is promising. Increases in all areas of Social Behavior and Social Control raise concerns. Reports of child abuse and neglect also substantially increased.

SALINE

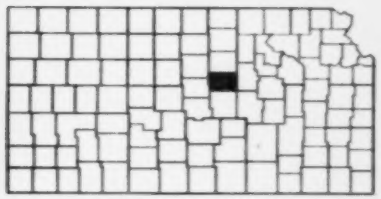
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	49,301	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	93.0%	88.4%
Black	3.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,030	$32,966
Unemployment	3.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Salina



Saline County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its child care availability rate. Significant improvements in the Head Start participation rate and juvenile court filings rate were also good news. There were no reported childhood deaths or teen violent deaths; however, there was a noticeable increase in the infant mortality rate. Substantial increases in reports of child abuse and neglect and in the percent of youth who reported recently drinking alcohol raise concerns.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.6	90	11.1	7	9.6	4.1
Children in Poverty	.	2304	17.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.9	2405	25.6	6	23.4	2.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	20.8	0	0.0	6	28.4	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.9	8	9.8	8	7.1	23.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.6	728	89.7	3	85.7	1.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.6	473	76.5	6	70.9	9.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.3	64	7.9	7	7.0	8.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	50.6	172	66.3	5	54.1	31.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	35.6	3401	36.8	1	26.4	3.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.4	381	76.2	6	75.1	2.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.1	160	19.7	7	18.1	15.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.5	500	78.2	9	80.8	0.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.0	91	6.1	7	6.9	12.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	82.7	0	0.0	6	70.0	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.9	1330	94.0	10	54.2	119.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	190	13.4	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	47.7	410	29.1	8	22.7	39.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.2	532	63.9	8	53.5	87.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	9.9	173	11.8	8	12.1	18.9

SCOTT

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.7	5	9.1	5	9.6	5.0
Children in Poverty	.	145	9.0	1	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.1	217	18.5	3	23.4	16.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.8	2	186.1	10	28.4	946.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.9	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	75.9	45	81.8	7	85.7	7.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.5	62	77.1	5	70.9	17.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.5	4	7.3	6	7.0	2.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	277.3	12	300.0	1	54.1	8.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	34.1	350	38.0	1	26.4	11.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.3	78	83.0	4	75.1	5.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	25.4	11	20.0	7	18.1	21.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.7	94	94.0	3	80.8	9.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.6	8	5.3	6	6.9	38.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	152.0	1	242.2	10	70.0	59.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	26.0	102	68.8	8	54.2	164.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	16	10.8	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.1	41	27.9	7	22.7	38.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.1	104	67.8	9	53.5	93.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.6	16	5.0	3	12.1	8.9

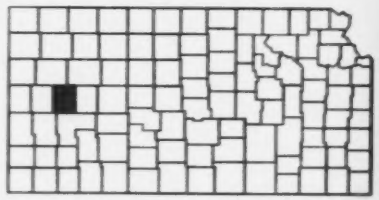
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,289	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	96.8%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,267	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Scott City



Scott County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following indicators: children in poverty, Head Start participation, and child care availability. With great strides in promoting full immunization by age 2, the county's rate was better than the state average. Increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control cause concerns. Also, Scott County experienced a substantial increase in child abuse and neglect reports.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

SEDGWICK

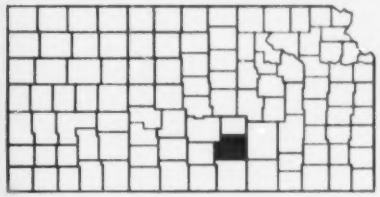
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	403,662	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	83.7%	88.4%
Black	8.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$36,194	$32,966
Unemployment	3.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Wichita



Sedgwick County rates among the best 20 percent of Kansas counties for its juvenile court filing rate. Declines in the percent of births to single teens and in the rate of teen violent deaths were also good news. Slight improvements in the child care availability and high school graduation rates place the county closer to the state average for these indicators. Of serious concern is that less than 60 percent of all kindergartners were fully immunized by age 2. Also troubling were significant increases in the percent of youth who reported using alcohol and other drugs. In addition, a noticeable decline in the Head Start participation rate may warrant attention.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.9	779	10.4	6	9.6	4.3
Children in Poverty	.	22936	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.6	22453	27.5	7	23.4	0.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.2	25	26.7	7	28.4	11.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	71	9.5	8	7.1	3.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.9	6445	87.1	5	85.7	1.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	58.0	3353	57.1	10	70.9	1.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	576	7.7	7	7.0	7.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	33.9	714	29.2	8	54.1	13.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.3	22469	25.5	5	26.4	4.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.6	2673	75.3	7	75.1	2.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.3	1553	20.9	8	18.1	2.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	69.0	3548	72.1	10	80.8	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9.6	1476	10.8	10	6.9	12.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	85.3	22	67.5	7	70.0	20.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.8	6011	46.7	4	54.2	0.3
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1212	9.4	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	13.2	1415	10.8	2	22.7	18.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.1	2,273	61.4	6	53.5	74.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.2	724	12.3	8	12.1	98.4

SEWARD

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.5	61	12.6	8	9.6	
Children in Poverty	.	1549	24.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.6	2154	43.4	10	23.4	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.9	1	19.5	6	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.4	3	6.2	7	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	51.9	282	59.1	10	85.7	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	43.2	257	59.0	10	70.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	28	5.8	4	7.0	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	33.8	70	32.9	8	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.8	684	14.1	10	26.4	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.8	161	71.2	9	75.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	45.4	201	42.8	10	18.1	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	76.7	226	65.9	10	80.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	38	5.2	6	6.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	102.7	4	237.6	10	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.3	384	55.9	6	54.2	
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	20	2.9	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	46.1	285	41.0	10	22.7	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.9	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

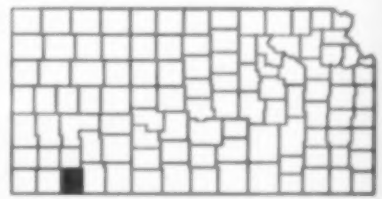
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	18,743	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	71.6%	88.4%
Black	5.8%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	19.5%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$29,810	$32,966
Unemployment	3.2%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Liberal



Seward County showed significant improvement in the percent of births with early prenatal care and in the percent of children immunized by age 2. Also worth celebrating were declines in the percent of low-birth-weight babies as well as in the rate of juvenile court filings. The high percentage of children living in poverty generates concerns. Also troubling is that most areas of Childhood Care & Education have worsened. With substantial declines in the high school graduation and child care availability rates, the county fell far below the state average for these indicators.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

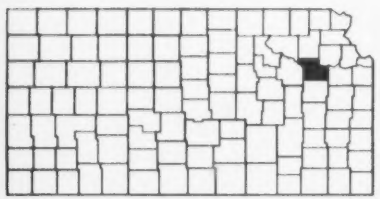
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	160,976	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	85.3%	88.4%
Black	8.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$35,987	$32,966
Unemployment	4.5%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Topeka



Shawnee County performed in the best 10 percent of the state for its child care availability rate. Other good news included significant percentage increases in Head Start participation and kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Dramatic increases in the percent of youth who reported using alcohol and other drugs warrant attention. Also, further efforts to promote high school graduation and post-secondary education and training are encouraged.

SHAWNEE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← 100 50 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.9	303	12.7	8	9.6	1.6
Children in Poverty	.	8081	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.0	8357	28.7	8	23.4	2.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.4	10	31.1	7	28.4	2.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.9	23	9.6	8	7.1	8.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.8	2123	88.9	3	85.7	1.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	71.6	1528	83.1	3	70.9	16.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.9	177	7.4	7	7.0	5.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	66.2	506	79.2	4	54.1	19.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	35.9	10224	35.2	1	26.4	1.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.2	986	61.9	10	75.1	10.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.3	442	18.5	7	18.1	1.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	74.9	1594	74.4	10	80.8	0.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.7	561	12.0	10	6.9	2.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	85.6	8	64.4	7	70.0	24.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	68.7	3983	89.1	10	54.2	29.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	546	12.2	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.3	1101	24.6	7	22.7	1.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.6	2,322	61.1	6	53.5	82.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	6.4	885	14.8	10	12.1	130.9

SHERIDAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.8	2	9.5	5	9.6	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	114	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.0	73	14.6	1	23.4	9.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.7	17	81.0	8	85.7	8.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	74.8	14	92.9	1	70.9	24.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.8	3	14.3	10	7.0	200.0
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	57.4	6	33.7	8	54.1	41.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.4	84	16.5	9	26.4	19.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.4	43	89.6	2	75.1	11.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.3	0	0.0	1	18.1	100.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.7	48	92.3	4	80.8	6.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.5	1	1.2	2	6.9	152.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.8	22	27.6	2	54.2	15.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	1.3	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	0.7	0	0.0	1	22.7	100.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

Percent Change Over Time: Worse ← 100 80 60 40 20 0 → Better 20 40 60 80 100

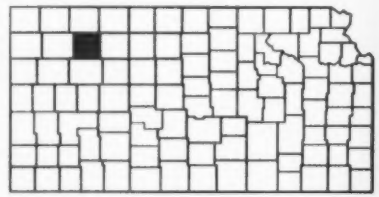
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,043	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.9%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.0%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,135	$32,966
Unemployment	2.6%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hoxie



Sheridan County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following rates: births to mothers with less than a high school degree, children approved for free school meals, kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, confirmed and substantiated child abuse and neglect cases, and juvenile court filings. Significant declines in the Head Start participation and child care availability rates raise concerns. Also, the county's percent of births with early prenatal care fell below the state average.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

SHERMAN

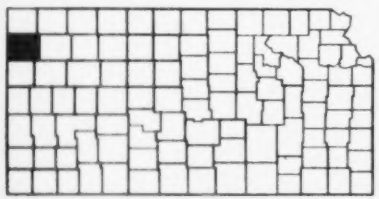
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,926	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	92.6%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,770	$32,966
Unemployment	2.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Goodland



Sherman County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its high percentage of students graduating from high school. The county also can be applauded for showing significant improvement in its percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Other good news included increases in the Head Start participation and child care availability rates. While the county experienced a decline in the percent of births to single teens, there was a notable increase in the percent of births to mother with less than a high school education. Increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control also generate concerns.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	15.0	12	12.0	8	9.6	19.9
Children in Poverty	.	378	20.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.3	323	26.9	7	23.4	4.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	4	303.1	10	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.8	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.3	88	88.0	5	85.7	4.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.3	48	82.5	3	70.9	32.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	8	8.0	8	7.0	18.3
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	68.0	34	79.0	4	54.1	16.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.5	308	26.3	4	26.4	11.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.9	53	72.6	8	75.1	4.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.1	26	26.3	9	18.1	37.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.5	73	96.1	1	80.8	9.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.1	5	2.6	3	6.9	57.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	76.5	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	34.1	157	85.4	9	54.2	150.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	28	15.2	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	35.4	86	47.6	10	22.7	34.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.8	95	63.8	8	53.5	114.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.8	17	6.6	4	12.1	13.7

SMITH

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	1.9	7	18.4	10	9.6	-71.3
Children in Poverty	.	172	16.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.4	199	24.8	6	23.4	1.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.1	35	92.1	1	85.7	4.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.7	45	92.9	1	70.9	45.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	2	5.3	4	7.0	-11.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	81.8	18	88.7	3	54.1	8.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.2	232	36.6	1	26.4	30.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	91.3	54	84.4	3	75.1	-7.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.8	4	10.5	2	18.1	28.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.0	64	94.1	3	80.8	-2.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.7	4	3.8	4	6.9	33.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	71.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.2	36	34.4	3	54.2	5.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	2	1.9	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	14.8	8	7.8	1	22.7	47.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.5	74	70.0	10	53.5	-137.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.5	9	3.6	2	12.1	-44.6

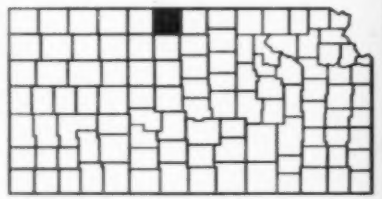
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,078	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.6%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$22,261	$32,966
Unemployment	2.2%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Smith Center



Smith County is especially applauded for its great strides toward improving the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. The county celebrated a rank in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for this indicator as well as for the following: births with early prenatal care, child care availability, and juvenile court filings. While the county experienced a decline in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree, there was a dramatic increase in the percent of births to single teens. A significant increase in the percent of youth who reported alcohol use may also warrant attention.

STAFFORD

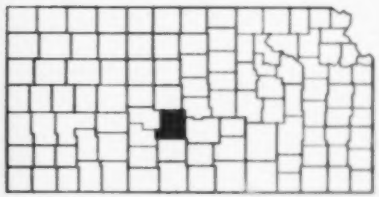
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,365	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.1%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,000	$32,966
Unemployment	2.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: St. John



Stafford County celebrated a considerable decline in juvenile court filings. Other improvements included increases in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, the percent of eligible children participating in the Head Start program and the child care availability rate. Of concern were the significant increases in the percent of births to single teens and in the percent of low-birth-weight babies. Also, with a 10 percent decline in the percent of births with early prenatal care, the county's rate was worse than the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.2	13	18.3	10	9.6	62.9
Children in Poverty	.	241	17.0	7	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.1	337	30.3	9	23.4	7.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	19.4	2	28.2	10	7.1	45.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	50	70.4	10	85.7	10.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.3	44	75.0	6	70.9	33.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.4	12	16.9	10	7.0	129.5
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	111.8	30	115.1	2	54.1	2.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.9	193	21.9	7	26.4	9.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.3	64	78.0	6	75.1	7.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.0	17	23.9	8	18.1	10.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.1	82	88.2	6	80.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.2	10	7.3	8	6.9	0.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	64.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.0	90	67.2	7	54.2	72.1
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	23	17.2	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.7	15	11.3	2	22.7	42.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	22.9	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

STANTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse — Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.2	1	2.6	1	9.6	71.3
Children in Poverty	.	113	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.0	177	32.0	9	23.4	3.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.7	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	76.1	31	81.6	7	85.7	7.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.8	34	81.1	4	70.9	9.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.8	3	7.9	7	7.0	63.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	54.5	10	53.0	6	54.1	2.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.2	111	19.5	8	26.4	1.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.4	22	91.7	1	75.1	9.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	30.1	11	28.9	9	18.1	3.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.7	24	96.0	1	80.8	10.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.7	1	1.2	1	6.9	56.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	122.7	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.8	13	16.3	1	54.2	65.4
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	2	2.5	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	33.3	19	23.4	6	22.7	29.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

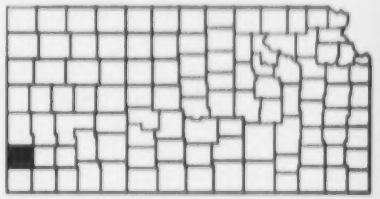
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,333	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	82.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	16.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,993	$32,966
Unemployment	2.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Johnson City



Stanton County sustained a year without any reports of infant mortality, childhood deaths or teen violent deaths. Other good news was that the county ranked in the best 10 percent of the state for the following rates: births to single teens, out-of-home placements, high school graduation, and post-secondary education and training. In addition, Stanton County received the best rank for its rate of reported child abuse and neglect cases; however, a dramatic rate increase this past year may warrant attention. While the county experienced a slight decline in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree, the county's rate remained significantly higher than the state average.

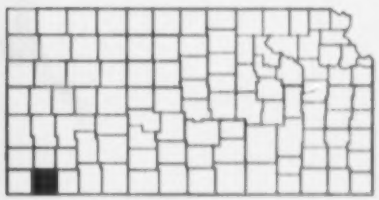
STEVENS

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,048	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	87.6%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.9%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$30,462	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hugoton



Stevens County showed significant improvement in its percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Also worth celebrating were the declines in the percent of births to single teens and percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree, as well as the increase in the child care availability rate. Stevens County experienced a slight increase in the percent of births with early prenatal care; however, the county's rate remains well below the state average. The county also recorded a substantial increase in reported child abuse and neglect cases.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.1	9	11.3	7	9.6	
Children in Poverty	.	224	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.1	299	24.6	6	23.4	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.6	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.8	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	67.6	53	67.9	10	85.7	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	41.5	52	67.7	9	70.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	5	6.3	5	7.0	
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	32.4	10	33.0	8	54.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.5	207	17.8	8	26.4	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.6	63	82.9	4	75.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	31.3	24	30.0	10	18.1	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.1	76	81.7	8	80.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.0	5	2.7	3	6.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	51.5	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.0	39	22.2	1	54.2	
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	0	0.0	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.2	35	19.7	5	22.7	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	124	54.4	2	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	27	10.0	7	12.1	

SUMNER

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.2	33	9.7	5	9.6	13.7
Children in Poverty	.	1046	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	22.1	1053	21.1	4	23.4	4.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	50.4	0	0.0	6	28.4	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	2	5.9	6	7.1	7.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.6	303	89.1	3	85.7	4.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.9	215	75.7	6	70.9	26.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	17	5.0	3	7.0	19.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	109.0	75	112.4	2	54.1	3.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.7	954	18.1	8	26.4	7.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	69.3	232	70.5	9	75.1	1.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.6	55	16.2	6	18.1	4.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.4	329	87.5	6	80.8	4.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12.3	97	11.4	10	6.9	6.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	70.8	3	141.2	8	70.0	99.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	44.9	407	50.0	5	54.2	11.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	78	9.6	7	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.3	175	21.3	5	22.7	10.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.9	247	55.1	3	53.5	53.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	5.9	63	11.5	8	12.1	95.5

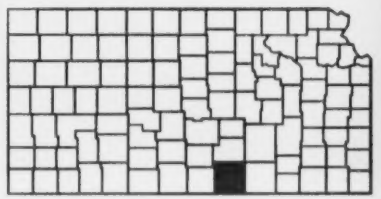
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	25,841	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.6%	88.4%
Black	0.5%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$32,772	$32,966
Unemployment	3.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Wellington



Sumner County should be proud of its improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. The county's rate exceeded the state average this past year. Noticeable improvement also can be seen in the percent of births to single teens, percent of births with early prenatal care and percent of low-birth-weight babies. A decline in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that the county's economic conditions are improving. Increases in all areas of Social Behavior and Social Control raise concerns. Also, this past year, the county's child care availability rate was well below the state average.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

THOMAS

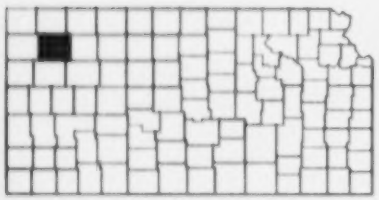
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,258	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.3%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.8%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$27,470	$32,966
Unemployment	2.4%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Colby



Thomas County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its low percentage of youth who reported drug use. Other good news included significant declines in the juvenile court filing rate, percent of births to single teens and percent of low-birth-weight babies, as well as an increase in the Head Start participation rate. A substantial increase in the percent of youth who reported drinking alcohol is troubling. Also, a noticeable increase in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree raises concerns. The county may want to assess whether more child care slots are needed.

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	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.3	8	7.6	3	9.6	17.9
Children in Poverty	.	362	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.8	288	18.4	3	23.4	6.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.0	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.8	1	9.5	8	7.1	8.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.5	92	87.6	5	85.7	10.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.9	77	77.8	5	70.9	11.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	6	5.7	4	7.0	11.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	57.1	33	70.1	4	54.1	22.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	34.5	444	29.6	3	26.4	14.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.1	99	80.5	4	75.1	7.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.0	14	13.3	5	18.1	21.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.8	123	89.1	5	80.8	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.7	11	4.2	5	6.9	10.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	25.7	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.8	123	50.8	5	54.2	37.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	33	13.6	9	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.2	33	13.8	3	22.7	28.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.8	46	66.7	9	53.5	116.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.6	3	2.3	1	12.1	13.2

TREGO

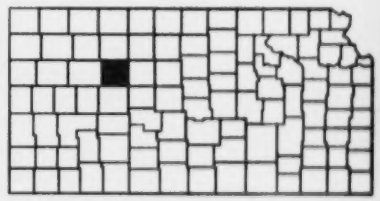
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	4	13.8	9	9.6	60.2
Children in Poverty	.	105	11.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.7	106	18.1	2	23.4	8.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.6	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	96.0	27	93.1	1	85.7	3.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.0	26	90.5	1	70.9	41.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.0	4	13.8	10	7.0	247.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	75.5	6	100.1	2	54.1	32.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.0	104	18.7	8	26.4	1.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.4	45	84.9	3	75.1	5.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.6	4	13.8	5	18.1	60.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.4	53	94.6	3	80.8	0.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.2	9	10.4	9	6.9	101.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	1	463.2	10	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.2	51	59.1	7	54.2	264.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	6	7.0	5	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	39.6	30	35.6	9	22.7	9.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.6	69	60.5	5	53.5	65.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	7.2	4	2.3	1	12.1	68.0

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,694	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.2%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.1%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,851	$32,966
Unemployment (1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.6%	3.8%

County Seat: Wakeeney



Trego County can be applauded for its rank in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following indicators: percent of births with early prenatal care, percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 and percent of youth who reported using illicit drugs. A significant increase in the Head Start participation rate was more good news. Of concern were dramatic increases in the percent of low-birth-weight babies, percent of births to single teens and percent of youth who reported drinking alcohol. Also, the county experienced a substantial increase in the reported cases of child abuse and neglect.

WABAUNSEE

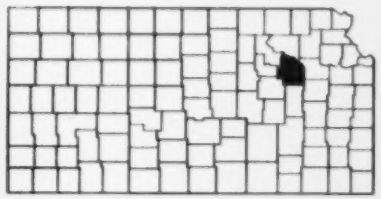
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,603	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	97.2%	88.4%
Black	0.6%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$31,802	$32,966
Unemployment	4.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Alma



Wabaunsee County ranked in the best 10 percent of all Kansas counties for the following indicators: children approved for free school meals, low-birth-weight babies, births to mothers with less than a high school degree and reported cases of child abuse and neglect. Making great strides in promoting full immunization by age 2, the county's rate was noticeably better than the state average. Declines in the Head Start participation rate and in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training may warrant attention. Also, even though the county saw only a slight decline in its child care availability, with a rate far below the state average, the county may want to consider whether more slots are needed.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.2	6	8.8	4	9.6	41.6
Children in Poverty	.	218	12.0	2	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	16.4	213	16.6	1	23.4	1.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	14.4	1	73.0	9	28.4	406.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.7	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.3	– 61	89.7	3	85.7	1.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.0	57	80.0	4	70.9	25.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	1	1.5	1	7.0	72.9
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	81.3	15	68.6	4	54.1	15.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.1	223	17.8	9	26.4	1.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.4	60	64.5	10	75.1	17.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.5	3	4.4	1	18.1	41.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.6	93	89.4	5	80.8	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.2	9	4.5	5	6.9	13.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	42.1	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	44.1	20	10.6	1	54.2	76.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	3	1.6	2	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	9.2	48	25.2	7	22.7	174.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.9	63	61.3	6	53.5	53.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	3.6	10	6.2	3	12.1	71.4

WALLACE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.2	3	12.5	8	9.6	139.6
Children in Poverty	.	69	13.0	4	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.1	116	26.6	7	23.4	10.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	258.5	10	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.3	19	79.2	8	85.7	1.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	78.3	19	84.6	2	70.9	8.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.2	2	8.3	8	7.0	59.7
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	104.0	17	105.6	2	54.1	1.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.6	73	20.2	8	26.4	15.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.7	33	84.6	3	75.1	0.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.2	5	20.8	8	18.1	47.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.3	39	100.0	1	80.8	3.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.5	2	3.4	4	6.9	24.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	255.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.9	48	86.3	9	54.2	293.7
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	14	25.2	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	9.1	11	19.6	5	22.7	115.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	53.5	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	.	.	.	12.1	

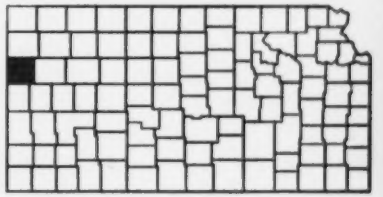
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,821	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	94.9%	88.4%
Black	0.3%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$23,950	$32,966
Unemployment	2.0%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sharon Springs



Wallace County celebrated a 100 percent high school graduation rate. Other good news included a noticeable improvement in the child care availability rate and in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. An increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate that economic conditions are worsening. Also of concern were the high percentages of births to single teens and births to mothers with less than a high school degree. The county recorded a significant increase in reported cases of child abuse and neglect.

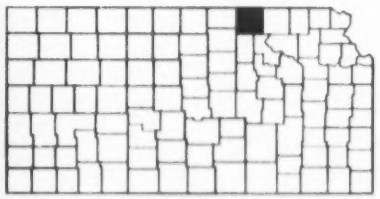
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,073	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	99.5%	88.4%
Black	0.1%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,134	$32,966
Unemployment	3.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Washington



Washington County ranked in the best 10 percent of the state for the following indicators: kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, child care availability and births to mothers with less than a high school degree. The county also can be applauded for showing noticeable improvements in its Head Start participation rate and percent of high school students pursuing post-secondary education and training. A decline in the percent of births with early prenatal care raises concerns. Also, increases in all areas of Social Behavior & Social Control may warrant attention.

WASHINGTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.6	5	7.4	3	9.6	30.5
Children in Poverty	.	252	15.0	6	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.8	335	22.7	5	23.4	8.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.0	1	84.2	10	28.4	425.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.8	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.7	56	82.4	7	85.7	7.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.3	85	88.4	1	70.9	35.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	4	5.9	4	7.0	4.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	80.0	15	87.6	3	54.1	9.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	37.0	348	35.2	1	26.4	5.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.1	125	88.0	2	75.1	5.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.6	4	5.9	1	18.1	23.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.7	142	95.3	2	80.8	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.4	5	3.0	4	6.9	110.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	15.7	76	46.1	4	54.2	194.6
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	3.0	3	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	11.2	34	21.0	5	22.7	87.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.2	111	58.2	4	53.5	56.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	1.9	9	3.5	2	12.1	85.1

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

WICHITA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.9	3	7.7	3	9.6	31.5
Children in Poverty	.	122	14.0	5	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.1	109	22.3	5	23.4	10.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	88.0	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.6	1	25.6	10	7.1	141.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.0	27	71.1	9	85.7	7.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.9	32	76.9	6	70.9	22.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	9.0	5	12.8	10	7.0	41.8
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	61.1	6	64.1	5	54.1	4.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	15.4	106	17.8	9	26.4	15.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.4	36	92.3	1	75.1	17.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.5	15	38.5	10	18.1	57.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.3	39	81.3	9	80.8	8.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9.7	1	1.1	1	6.9	82.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	98.2	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.6	29	32.3	3	54.2	136.2
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	1	1.1	1	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	16.1	4	4.5	1	22.7	72.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	47.2	76	51.9	2	53.5	10.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	.	11	7.1	4	12.1	

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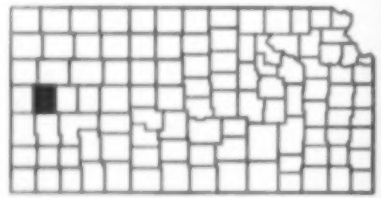
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,758	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.7%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	87.5%	88.4%
Black	0.0%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	11.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$25,288	$32,966
Unemployment	3.4%	3.8%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Leoti



Wichita County should be proud of its rank in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for the following indicators: high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education/ training, juvenile court filings, out-of-home placements, and confirmed and substantiated child abuse and neglect cases. Other good news included significant improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2 and in the child care availability rate. Of concern were the noticeable declines in the percent of births with early prenatal care and in the percent of students graduating from high school. A dramatic increase in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree is also troubling. In addition, Wichita County experienced a substantial increase in reported cases of child abuse and neglect.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

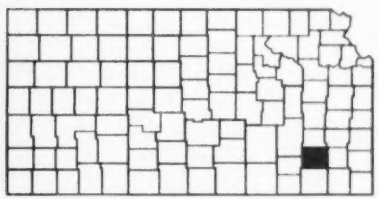
WILSON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,259	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.3%	88.4%
Black	0.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$23,635	$32,966
Unemployment	4.3%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Fredonia



Wilson County is applauded for showing remarkable improvement in its percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. With a 73 percent increase, the county's rate surpassed the state average. Also worth celebrating were increases in the Head Start participation and child care availability rates, as well as in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training. Wilson County ranked in the worst 10 percent of Kansas counties for its high percentage of births to single teens and high rate of confirmed and substantiated cases of child abuse and neglect. Also troubling was the significant increase in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree and a decline in the high school graduation rate, which has dropped below the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.6	21	15.9	10	9.6	26.6
Children in Poverty	.	572	21.0	9	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.9	611	29.5	9	23.4	4.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	39.7	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.5	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.5	108	83.1	6	85.7	0.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	47.2	100	81.8	3	70.9	73.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	9	6.8	6	7.0	18.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	64.0	40	68.4	5	54.1	6.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.9	397	23.6	6	26.4	12.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.1	121	76.1	6	75.1	7.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.7	36	27.3	9	18.1	31.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.0	159	78.3	9	80.8	3.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.9	20	7.1	7	6.9	2.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	218.3	1	128.7	8	70.0	41.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	75.4	190	69.5	8	54.2	7.8
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	56	20.5	10	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	25.4	103	37.9	9	22.7	49.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.7	181	57.8	4	53.5	71.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	4.5	56	13.0	9	12.1	192.7

WOODSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	4	9.5	5	9.6	5.4
Children in Poverty	.	187	19.0	8	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.6	207	33.2	9	23.4	12.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	28.4	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.1	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.7	38	90.5	2	85.7	8.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	46.9	22	62.1	10	70.9	32.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	1	2.4	2	7.0	67.1
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	50.9	10	54.2	6	54.1	6.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	8.6	56	9.0	10	26.4	5.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.4	50	94.3	1	75.1	23.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.4	4	9.5	2	18.1	16.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.7	53	91.4	4	80.8	11.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.8	11	10.9	10	6.9	126.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	78.8	0	.	.	70.0	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.0	38	39.2	4	54.2	8.9
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	5	5.2	4	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.4	12	12.5	2	22.7	38.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.8	94	48.6	1	53.5	22.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	2.9	11	6.0	3	12.1	318.4

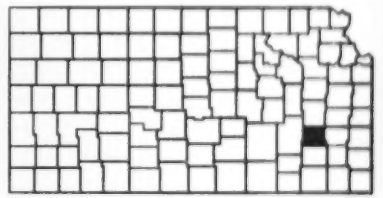
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,116	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.0%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	98.2%	88.4%
Black	0.4%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$24,185	$32,966
Unemployment	7.1%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Yates Center



Woodson County ranked in the best 10 percent of Kansas counties for its percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education and training. Other good news included improvements in the juvenile court filing and Head Start participation rates, as well as in the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. In showing significant improvement in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, the county's rate climbs closer to the state average. A notable increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals may indicate economic conditions are worsening. Also of concern is the county's ranking in the worst 10 percent for its low child care availability rate and the noticeable increase in the percent of youth who reported using drugs.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

WYANDOTTE

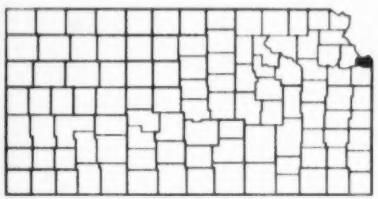
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	161,993	2,477,574
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.4%	26.7%
Ethnicity		
White	64.2%	88.4%
Black	27.2%	5.7%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.8%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.2%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.8%	3.8%
Median Family Income	$28,672	$32,966
Unemployment	7.7%	3.8%

(1998 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Kansas City



Wyandotte County showed a significant increase in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post secondary education and training. Also worth celebrating were improvements in the child care availability and Head Start participation rates, as well as in the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Declines in the teen violent death rate, infant mortality rate and percent of low-birth-weight babies were other good news. A notable decline in the high school graduation rate and substantial increases in the percent of youth who reported using alcohol or other drugs raise concerns. Also troubling is the high percentage of children living in poverty.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	18.8	471	17.3	10	9.6	8.0
Children in Poverty	.	14491	32.0	10	17.0	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	45.6	14251	48.3	10	23.4	5.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	34.8	13	39.6	7	28.4	13.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.4	25	9.2	8	7.1	11.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	2124	78.4	8	85.7	0.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	38.0	994	49.1	10	70.9	29.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	9.0	226	8.3	8	7.0	8.4
CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	59.0	854	65.0	5	54.1	10.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.6	6648	22.2	7	26.4	7.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	68.3	1087	78.3	5	75.1	14.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	29.6	849	31.4	10	18.1	6.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	69.8	1389	63.1	10	80.8	9.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	16.9	391	8.3	8	6.9	51.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	153.0	15	121.5	8	70.0	20.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	76.7	3049	67.5	8	54.2	12.0
Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	.	547	12.1	8	9.3	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	32.5	1704	37.8	9	22.7	16.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.6	2,117	61.8	7	53.5	73.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Others Drugs	10.2	1,020	18.4	10	12.1	80.9

DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Births to Single Teens is the percentage of live births that occur to unmarried women under the age of 20. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment provides data by calendar year

Children in Poverty is an estimate of the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The estimates are based on a sample of families surveyed each March in the Current Population Survey. Currently available data report family income for 1993. In calendar year 1993, the poverty threshold for a typical family of four persons was $14,763.

Children Approved for Free School Meals is the percentage of children enrolled in school in an academic year who have been approved for free school meals. Data are from the Kansas State Board of Education.

Children Receiving Economic Assistance is the number of children receiving any form of cash assistance (adoption subsidy, TANF, foster care, general assistance or refugee assistance), medical assistance (child in state institution, extended medical, pregnant women and children, medically needy, disabled medically needy families, SSI disabled, special pregnant women and children or work transition) or food stamps per 100 children under the age of 18. Each child receiving one or more forms of assistance is counted only once. The count is obtained from a single month (June) and is therefore not indicative of the total number of children receiving assistance during the entire year. Data are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Childhood Deaths, Ages 1-14 (per 100,000 children) is the number of deaths from all causes per 100,000 children ages 1 through 14. Data regarding childhood deaths by calendar year are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Population data are obtained from estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) is the number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births in the last calendar year. The data were provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Births with Early Prenatal Care is the percentage of births in the last calendar year that are to women who started prenatal care in the first three months of their pregnancy as indicated on the birth certificate. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2 is the percentage of children in kindergarten who had received all recommended immunizations by age 2. It is based on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates done each fall at the time of enrollment in kindergarten. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Low-Birth-Weight Babies is the percentage of live births in a calendar year that are recorded as low-birth-weight. Babies of low birth weight are those who weigh under 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth. The data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION

Head Start Participation is the number of Head Start enrollment slots divided by the estimated number of children ages 3 to 5 living in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. Rates are expressed as percentages. Data on Head Start enrollment are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Region VII. Data on children in poverty are based on poverty estimates (Children in Poverty indicator above) and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Child Care Availability is the capacity of registered day care homes, licensed day care homes, group day care homes, child care centers and preschools per 100 children under age 13 in the population. The child care data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Population estimates for children under age 13 are from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training is the percentage of the last year's high school graduating class that are enrolled in post-secondary education or training (four-year college or university, two-year college, other type of college or other non-college institution) five to six months after graduation. Data are from school districts' annual survey of graduates compiled by the Kansas Department of Education.

Births to Mothers with Less than a High School Degree is the percent of live births in the past calendar year that occur to women who have not received a high school degree as indicated on the birth certificate. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Students Graduating High School is the percentage of ninth-grade public school students who graduated four years later. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates and dropouts from grades nine through 12. Data are from the Kansas State Board of Education.

DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Teen Violent Deaths, Ages 15-19 (per 100,000 teens) is the number of deaths in a calendar year from homicides, suicides and accidents to teens ages 15 through 19 per 100,000 teens of those ages. The data for teen deaths are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Teen population estimates are from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Reported Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of official child abuse/neglect reports per 100,000 children in the population under age 18. Data on child abuse/neglect reports are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Substantiated Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of cases substantiated upon investigation of child abuse/neglect (child protective services worker determines that abuse or neglect occurred) per 100,000 children and youth under age 18. Data on child abuse/neglect reports are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Out-of-Home Placement Rate is the number of children and youth who are in SRS custody and in placement outside their family of origin per 1,000 children and youth age 18 and under. The count is obtained from a single month (June) and is therefore not indicative of the total number of children in out-of-home placement during the entire year. Data on children in placement are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL

Juvenile Court Filings is the number of court filings for juvenile offenders between July and June of a given fiscal year per 1000 children and youth under the age of 18. Data on the number of filings are from the Annual Report on the Courts of Kansas, Office of Judicial Administration. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Youth Who Report Using Alcohol in the Past 30 Days is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 who indicated any use of alcohol in the 30 days prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

Youth Who Report Binge Drinking is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 who indicated taking five or more consecutive drinks on one occasion prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 responding to an annual survey who indicated any use of the following drugs: marijuana, cocaine, inhalants or LSD. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Unemployment is the percent of civilian labor force estimated to be unemployed. Annual estimates are provided by the Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services.

All other measures of demographic characteristics are taken from the 1990 Census of the Population. Median Family Income is the annual family income that half the families in Kansas exceed and half fall below. Families are two or more persons who are related by birth, marriage or adoption and who live together as one household.

[1] The Population Estimates Program produces for counties each year: total population estimates and county estimates by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin. The release of total population estimates in the winter also includes demographic components of change. In the summer, the program releases the estimates by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin. The reference date for county population estimates is July 1. For more information, contact the Population Division's Statistical Information Staff at (301) 457-2422.